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VOL. VII NO. 11

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SIXTEEN PAGES — TWO RIYALS

## Hijackers Surrender in Havana

HAVANA, Dec. 8 (Agencies) — All passengers and crew members of the three hijacked Venezuelan planes which landed here Tuesday have been freed, diplomatic sources said here.

All passengers and crew members were freed unharmed and have been taken to a hotel in Havana, the diplomatic sources said. They are expected to leave Cuba Wednesday, the sources added.

The hijackers claimed to belong to an "international solidarity commando," the sources said.

They were demanding the release of 23 political prisoners held in Venezuela and a \$10-million ransom, sources added. The demands were made after the release of the passengers and crew.

Earlier, the planes had taken off from Panama with about 150 hostages, an official at Panama City's airport reported.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the hijackers released an ailing Roman Catholic priest, while the Avensa Airline Boeing 727 and two Aeropostal DC-9s were being refueled and food was taken aboard.

All three planes had set off on domestic flights but were diverted to the Colombian Caribbean port of Barranquilla. The hijackers demanded the release of seven people who they described as political prisoners in Venezuela and a \$10 million ransom.

Sunday night, two of the planes flew to Honduras and the third to Guatemala and secret negotiations were held with authorities in both countries. No details of the discussions were revealed and all three planes left for Panama Tuesday morning.

There were originally more than 250 passengers on board the three aircraft but the hijackers released many of them in stops along the route in exchange for fuel and food. One of the planes stopped over in the Dutch Antilles Monday and 20 women and children and a sick man were freed.

In Venezuela, Interior Minister Rafael Montes de Oca said Tuesday the government will not negotiate with hijackers holding three Venezuelan planes and an estimated 150 hostages. "This government will not negotiate with people who have placed themselves outside the law," Montes de Oca said.

Montes de Oca said the government had received no formal demands from the hijackers, but he later referred, in a television interview, to "some sort of document." Caracas newspapers Monday night received a communique said to be from the hijackers citing demands of money and the release of prisoners, and criticizing the political situation in Venezuela, El Salvador, Puerto Rico and Haiti, according to a spokesman from one newspaper, *El Universal*. No newspaper published the communique Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the vice president of one of the airlines involved in Monday's hijacking, Fernando Miralles of Aeropostal, resigned or was fired from his post after he criticized airport security here.

## Hijackers land Libyan jet in Beirut

BEIRUT, Dec. 8 (Agencies) — The hijacked Libyan Airlines Boeing 727 landed here Tuesday night. The plane, which took off from Rome's airport, earlier circled over Beirut waiting for runways to be cleared and illuminated after it had been refused permission to land both in Cyprus and here.

The hijackers demanded food and a new crew shortly before landing according to airline sources. The hijackers also demanded blankets and portraits of Imam Moussa Sadr, a leader of the Lebanese Shiite Muslims. Imam Sadr disappeared during a visit to Tripoli in August 1978. The hijackers believe he is held in Libya and are demanding his release.

Earlier, the plane circled over the Mediterranean island of Cyprus pending landing clearance in the Middle East. The plane's pilot was overheard telling the control tower of Larnaca airport that he was unsuccessful in getting a landing clearance from Syria's Damascus airport that he had fuel enough only for two more hours of flying.

The governments of Lebanon, Iran and Cyprus declared their airports closed in an attempt to prevent the plane from landing there.

The privately-owned "Voice of Lebanon" radio station earlier said the plane might head for Tehran's Mehrabad airport if it had enough fuel for the trip to the Iranian capital.

But Ayatollah Khomeini's regime had already served formal notice in a statement distributed by official Pars news agency that the Libyan airliner would not be allowed to land in Tehran.

Like Beirut airport, Larnaca airport was completely blocked out and its control tower was overheard telling the pilot of the hijacked plane that "the runway is blocked. The government (of Cyprus) is refusing you permission to land." The tower also was overheard telling the pilot to "remain overhead" while "the government is deciding whether either one would allow the Libyan plane to land there."

An airport official said authorities planned to block the two runways with fire trucks and airplane servicing vehicles in an attempt to prevent a landing. Lights at the airport were turned off. All incoming and outgoing flights were indefinitely suspended by Hrawi. Armed militiamen from the "Amal" organization took up positions around the airport, a spokesman for Amal's Beirut headquarters reported.

The spokesman, who requested anonymity, said the "reinforcements" were an "extra security precaution because the airport vicinity falls within areas belong to us." The deployment of Amal's gunmen was confirmed by local radio monitors who intercepted an exchange of wireless messages between the gunmen and their headquarters.

The three original hijackers were joined on board by two gunmen during the previous stop at Beirut.

Five hijacks have since been staged to pressure the Libyan government of Col. Muammar Qaddafi to return Sadr and two aides who disappeared with him. But Qaddafi's government insisted Sadr had left Libya on Aug. 31, 1978, on a Rome-bound Italian jetliner. Sadr's Lebanese followers and the Amal organization, which the clergyman founded during Lebanon's 1975-76 civil war, insisted Sadr had never left the North African state.

In an incident which has not been officially reported or explained, two shots were fired before the plane left Beirut. Lebanese newspapers said that a passenger had been shot in the foot by a hijacker who thought that Lebanese security forces were approaching the plane.

Meanwhile, Libya's state radio charged Tuesday the Lebanese hijackers of jetliner were "terrorist agents" of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).



**Hijacked:** The Libyan Boeing-727 hijacked by Lebanese extremists is seen on the tarmac of Rome's Ciampino military airport before leaving for Beirut Tuesday.

## Reagan decision by month-end U.S. to tackle Castro, Qaddafi

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (R) — President Reagan is likely to decide by the end of this month on how to deal with the buggers of his foreign policy, Fidel Castro and Muammar Qaddafi, and signs are that practical concerns will outweigh his desire for tough action.

Administration officials said major policy reviews on ties with both countries are nearing completion, spurred by new U.S. reports of Cuban intervention in central America and an alleged Libyan plot to assassinate Reagan and his top aides. The reviews, initiated soon after the administration took office last January, have reached White House level, they said.

The officials predicted limited action by Reagan despite public and private administration threats of economic measures, such as trade boycotts, and military moves, such as naval blockades, against either or both countries. While many of the president's conservative supporters would welcome tough action against the Cuban and Libyan governments, they said, such a policy would pose political risks both at home and abroad.

In the case of Cuba, the harshest measure that has received any serious U.S. consideration is a naval blockade to cut off arms that flow from East European countries into the island and out again to leftists in Nicaragua, El Salvador and other trouble spots. Pentagon officials said, however, that it would be difficult to enforce such a blockade, especially if U.S. naval forces elsewhere were stretched to the limits.

State Department officials say moreover that a blockade would be bitterly opposed even by U.S. friends in the region and also could ease Moscow's path to military action in Poland. The officials said Reagan, who accused President Jimmy Carter of responding weakly to the presence of Soviet combat troops in Cuba in 1979, was likely to act similarly now. They also predicted that any new U.S. economic moves against Cuba

## Dress mirrors nation -- Zia

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 8 (R) — President Zia ul-Haq said Tuesday that all Pakistanis going to Makkah for pilgrimage would wear Pakistani dress during their stay in Saudi Arabia after performing the Haj.

He told a conference of Islamic scholars this was necessary to project the Pakistani national identity among hundreds of thousands of Muslims who assemble in Makkah every year.

## Cheysson attacks EEC peace plan

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (Agencies) — Israeli officials Tuesday warmly welcomed a surprise attack by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson on the West European initiative to advance peace in the Middle East.

Speaking during a 24-hour visit to Israel, Cheysson said he did not think Europeans, in countries outside the Middle East, should tell countries in the region what to do. The present French administration would not allow the European Economic Community (EEC) to develop a Middle East peace initiative, he said.

The remarks, made at an official banquet Monday night and in an interview Tuesday, delighted Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and other Israeli leaders who have long campaigned against European efforts to bring the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) into the Middle East peace process. Israeli officials said Cheysson's remarks indicated a significant change for the better in Israel's hitherto difficult relationship with France.

Israeli officials were unable to confirm reports in the newspaper *Maariv* and on the state radio that Cheysson had said France was willing to resume arms sale to the Zionist state. The radio quoted Cheysson as saying that since France had lifted its embargo on arms sale to the Middle East in 1974, there was nothing against shipping French weapons to Israel.

France, once Israel's foremost arms supplier, placed an embargo on arms sales to all Middle East "battlefield" countries in 1967. Interviewed by Israel radio, Cheysson said: "It is up to the country in the region to decide their own future. We in Europe would not accept an American initiative, a Russian initiative or a Brazilian initiative to tell us what to do among ourselves. I don't think that the French, the Europeans, the Americans or the Russians should try to tell the countries in the (Middle East) region what to do."

Cheysson also criticized the 1980 Venice Declaration on which the EEC Middle East initiative was based. This declaration, calling for Palestinian self-determination and a PLO role in peace talks, has repeatedly been attacked by the Israeli government.

Cheysson said the Venice Declaration was wrong not to take account of progress made under the Camp David agreements which brought peace between Israel and Egypt. "Therefore, to take a stand against Camp David was certainly a mistake and that is what we did not like in the declaration," Cheysson said.

The Venice Declaration had contained some excellent things "but we have gone far beyond that in many respects," he said. As an example, Cheysson cited the proposed inclusion of British, French, Italian and Dutch troops in the force that will patrol Sinai when

Israel leaves the area next April. "This is not part of the Venice Declaration but is part of the present European position," Cheysson said. "Therefore, Venice is behind us."

Cheysson said some local initiatives, such as the Saudi Arabian eight-point plan calling for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands, might be justified although it remained to be seen when this plan would bear fruit.

Political sources said Cheysson's remarks seemed certain to arouse surprise among the other nine EEC governments. Until now, EEC leaders have shown solidarity over the Venice Declaration and the European initiative.

Not all of Cheysson's remarks were calculated to please the Israelis. "In this region," he told his radio interviewer, "there is one people, the rights of which have not for the time being been respected. There is still one people that does not enjoy the normal rights of any people in the world to a homeland and state structures. I did not say Palestine or the Palestinians but it is clear to everyone."

Israeli officials said Shamir took up this matter Tuesday during his two-and-a-half hour working session with the French minister. The officials said Shamir reiterated his argument that Palestinians already have "a homeland in Jordan."

In Paris, it was announced that President Francois Mitterrand will make an official visit to Israel Feb. 10 to 12. The visit will be the first by a French or Western European president to Israel since 1948.

In the meantime Shamir said Tuesday that West European countries should "leave Israel in peace" and forget any idea of an independent Palestinian state in the Middle East. He told the West German magazine *Stern* that the authors of the Venice Declaration wanted to push Israel back to what he called the Ghetto borders of 1967. "But these borders cannot be defended. We shall never accept them," he said in the interview.

*Stern* quoted Shamir as saying the Europeans should not use their proposed role in a multinational Sinai peace keeping force as a Trojan horse to introduce their policies into the area. "They should leave us in peace," he said.

## Lockheed to stop making Tristar

BURBANK, California, Dec. 8 (R) — Lockheed Corp. has decided to cease production of its Tristar L-1011 wide-bodied jet by 1984.

Announcing the decision Monday, Lockheed Corporation Chairman Roy Anderson said the decision to let the Rolls Royce powered L-1011 die was forced by insufficient firm orders and uncertainty over future trends. "No-one is selling any aircraft in the L-1011 range — wide-bodied aircraft that carry between 240 and 320 persons on medium to long range flights — at this time," a Lockheed spokesman said. "The recession has affected all aircraft and a lot of airlines have started going for smaller planes," he said.

The plane first flew in 1970 and went into service in April 1972, after the financially-troubled company had received a U.S. government-guaranteed line of credit for \$250 million with additional bank credit facilities of up to \$620 million. In 1971, the cost of developing the RB-211 engine had driven Rolls Royce into receivership and eventual public ownership.

In the U.S. wide-bodied sales league, Boeing has sold more than 500 of its 747s, McDonnell-Douglas more than 400 DC-10s, while Lockheed comes third with some 220 L-1011s sold. The company has firm orders for 24 more L-1011s. But this year, there have been three Tristar cancellations, against only five new orders. "The existing backlog of orders is not enough to sustain continued production of the L-1011 at an economically justifiable level," Anderson said.

Lockheed has lost about \$850 million on the aircraft in the last six years, draining profits from the corporation's other enterprises. Anderson said the phase-out would have no significant impact on Lockheed's continuing business in other areas. Lockheed's competitors have also had their difficulties. McDonnell-Douglas said last October it was considering halting production of the DC-10. And the same month, Boeing announced a sharp fall in earnings partly as a result of reduced orders for its 747s and said orders were unlikely to pick up before 1983.

## Salim quits U.N. poll fray

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (AP) — Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Ahmed Salim, following the example of Kurt Waldheim, announced Tuesday he was stepping aside from further balloting for secretary-general.

Salim said he remained available for the top U.N. post if the council failed to agree on a compromise candidate.

The 39-year-old Salim noted that other prospective candidates from the Third World were reluctant to enter the race as long as his name remained on the ballot.

Salim said his decision "will give real possibilities for other candidates from the Third World to be considered and for the council to make progress in its efforts."

Salim added that he had assured the current president of the 15-member Security Council, Ambassador Olara Otunnu of Uganda, "of my continued availability to serve" if the U.S. opposition to his candidacy is overcome by Dec. 31, when Waldheim's current term expires.

The 62-year-old Waldheim, who has served two five-year terms as the world body's chief administrative officer, asked the council last Thursday to withdraw his name from the balloting. Like Salim, he remained available for reconsideration if the council was unable to agree on an alternative candidate.

The withdrawals came after the council held 16 inconclusive rounds of balloting, which began Oct. 27. Waldheim repeatedly was vetoed by China, which is committed to supporting a Third World candidate.

## King receives sheikhs, ulema

RIYADH, Dec. 8 (SPA) — King Khaled received the sheikhs and ulema of the country at his palace here Tuesday as he does every week.

Earlier, he received the Chadian Minister of Animal Resources Muhammad Fakhi Hamad who delivered to him a message from the Chadian President Goukoumi Oueddei. The meeting was attended by Crown Prince Fahlid.

## Facing buyers' resistance OPEC poised to trim prices

ABU DHABI, Dec. 8 (R) — A new round of small crude oil price cuts is likely to emerge from a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) here Wednesday, well-placed delegation sources said Tuesday. But the cuts would probably not be substantial enough to benefit consumers, the sources said.

They said that among the 13 members of OPEC, Algeria, Libya, Kuwait and possibly Iran were considering reductions of around 50 U.S. cents on prices now ranging from \$ 33 to \$ 37.50 a barrel. These countries have already trimmed prices by several dollars this year but, with the current global glut of crude oil, Western and Japanese oil companies are pressing for further reductions.

The sources said OPEC will not change the present 46/34 price for Saudi Arabian light crude, the benchmark or base price on which all the members align their prices with differentials added or subtracted according to quality. Any price changes agreed here would be achieved by varying these differentials, they said.

But delegates have some major differences to sort out before any agreement is reached and they predicted that there could be acrimonious exchanges. Libya and Algeria are at odds with OPEC's third major African exporter, Nigeria, over what all three should charge for their top grade, petrol-rich crude oils. Libya and Algeria officially ask \$37.50, although industry sources said Libya has offered tax relief on some of its crude for an effective price around \$36.50.

Nigeria asks \$36.50. A compromise \$37 African rate is being mooted here but delegates predicted Nigeria would be adamant in refusing to agree to anything that might jeopardize its effort to rebuild sales after a disastrous summer slump.

Industry sources said Nigerian output fell to 500,000 barrels a day in mid-summer, around 25 percent of last year's volume. They said the Nigerians are now back producing around 1.2 million barrels daily, with buyers already lined up to take it up to 1.5 million, with a target of 1.7 to 1.8 million for 1982. Libya's sales are also down and it is negotiating with U.S. companies to boost them from around 700,000 barrels daily up to around

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## U.S. Jews flay Camp David pact

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 — A group of American Jews gathered on a street corner not far from the Embassy of Egypt in Washington Monday — the 40th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor — to protest the Camp David Peace Treaty. The demonstrators accuse Egypt of participating with the other Arab countries in planning a Pearl Harbor in the Middle East and, therefore, do not want the final Israeli evacuation from the Sinai to take place.

While Americans throughout the United States are commemorating American soldiers who died during the surprise Japanese attack on December 7, 1941, the extremist Jewish group took the opportunity to draw the analogy that the present autonomy talks are reminiscent of the "political blindness" the American government had towards the Japanese before their attack.

Egyptian Embassy officials said that the event was not serious. Nonetheless, it will be interesting to watch whether or not this particular Israeli propaganda will gain momentum as April 1982, the date scheduled for the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, draws closer.

## Global poor may hit 917m by 1990

MANILA, Dec. 8 (AFP) — If the present world unemployment trends continue, those who live in absolute poverty may rise from 600 million in the mid 1980s to 917 million by the end of this decade.

This warning was given by Dr. Rafael Salas, executive director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) when he emphasized the problem of unemployment in his keynote speech during the opening ceremonies of the two-day national population welfare congress. Salas noted that both developing and developed countries are taking measures to eliminate imbalances in the labor market. However, he stated that these measures will be fruitful only if these are undertaken within a long-term perspective. He stressed that for employment programs to be effective, one has to adopt strategies and policies and more importantly, act on them.

The two-day congress is one of twin con-

## Galtieri likely to succeed Viola

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 8 (AFP) — Argentina's president, Gen. Roberto Viola, hospitalized four weeks ago with cardiac problems, will resign before the end of this week, according to reliable sources here.

Army chief of staff Gen. V. Galtieri is expected to become the next president, the sources said.

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## Fahd orders zakat panel

RIYADH, Dec. 8 (SPA) — Crown Prince Fahd Monday briefed the Council of Ministers on the importance of 'zakat' (Islam's compulsory charity) and the proper means to collect it. He ordered the establishment of a committee to study the issue and see how it should be collected and spent in accordance with the divine law.

Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdo Yamani stated that Justice Minister Sheikh Ibrahim bin Muhammad Al-Sheikh addressed the cabinet on the same issue. Prince Fahd told the ministers: "It is our duty to inform the people and impress upon them the importance of this significant injunction of our religion. By acting collectively and feeling that it is our joint responsibility to see that zakat is collected and disbursed properly, we would be earning Almighty God's

mercy and help."

The prince also referred to social security and the importance of assistance to the needy. He said that conscience, in this respect, can be cleared only through minute research and enquiry. He requested a comprehensive report on the subject by the acting minister of labor and social affairs.

Yamani said that the cabinet then discussed certain aspects of the Third Five-Year Development Plan. It was briefed on the subject by Planning Minister Sheikh Hisham Nazer.

The cabinet approved the draft royal decree for the establishment of the Saudi-Kuwaiti Joint Cement Company. The project is part of a drive to further industrial cooperation between Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries.

## Niger, Bangladesh get IDB loans

JEDDAH, Dec. 8 (SPA) — The 35th session of the Board of Executive Directors of the Islamic Development Bank began here Tuesday under Dr. Ahmad Muhammad Ali, the bank's president.

The board will study the financing of some development projects in member states. Besides, it will discuss administrative and

developmental aspects of the bank, as well as the sixth annual report and the budget of the Islamic Institute for Research and Training for 1982.

Meanwhile, two agreements for foreign trade financing worth \$13 million were signed at the IDB headquarters in favor of Niger and Bangladesh.

## Jordan receives SR161m from SDF for Aqaba dock

AMMAN, Dec. 8 (SPA) — Finance and National Economy Minister Sheikh Muhammad Aba Al-Khail signed here Tuesday two loan agreements under which the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) will give SR161.75 million to the Jordan government.

The first loan of SR61.25 million will be used for the construction of an industrial dock at the Aqaba Port, while the second loan of SR100.5 million will finance a project to supply nearly 45 million cubic meters of drinking water to Amman everyday.

The agreements were signed, on behalf of the Jordanian government, by Dr. Heena Awdah, chairman of the National Council of Planning.

King Hussein Monday reviewed bilateral relations and avenues of economic cooperation with Aba Al-Khail. The meeting was attended by Ahmad Al-Lozi, head of the Royal Court, Musa'adah and Sheikh Ibrahim Sultan, Saudi Arabian ambassador to Jordan.

Later, Aba Al-Khail announced that, after the signing of the present agreements, SFD's total loans to Jordan have touched the SR545 million mark. He reaffirmed that King Khaled's government is

keen to assist Jordan's development projects for the welfare of the brotherly people of Jordan.

Meanwhile, Jordan's Finance Minister Salem Al-Musa'adah lauded Saudi Arabia's support for this country's development projects. He reiterated that this assistance will always be appreciated by the Jordanian government and people.

Awdah also expressed appreciation of Saudi Arabia's aid to the economic development in Jordan. He said that the present two loans reflect the strong ties existing between the two countries.

Aba Al-Khail Tuesday held talks with the ministers of finance, transport, industry and commerce as well as with the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan. Talks dealt with the ways of further consolidating existing cooperation between the two countries.

In the afternoon, Aba Al-Khail and his accompanying delegation visited the liaison office of Al-Yarmuk University and, later, the Royal Academic Society, where he was briefed on the society's programs to boost economic growth in the country.

## Saplings to reforest Ahsa region

AHSA, Dec. 8 (SPA) — A tree planting week is to be organized in the Ahsa Region, at the beginning of the second half of the current academic year, it was announced here Tuesday.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the executive committee of the afforestation week held under the chairmanship of Ahsa Governor Prince Muhammad bin Fahd Al-Jiluwi. The committee decided to plant

16,000 saplings during the week.

Government agencies scheduled to take part in the week include the municipalities of Hofuf, Umran, Oyu; Jafir rural complex; the Directorate General of Agricultural Affairs in the region; irrigation and sewage departments; the agricultural research center; King Faisal University; Directorate of Education and the General Presidency for Youth Welfare.

## For more trade

## Chinese launch new drive

By Suresh Shah

JEDDAH, Dec. 8 — To expand trade ties with the Kingdom, the Republic of China has organized a trade fair, scheduled to last Dec. 9 through 15, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here. The exhibit is aimed at acquainting buyers with what China can offer, according to Ambassador Yu-chi Hsueh Tuesday.

Talking to newsmen, he said the fair to be inaugurated by Mayor Muhammad Said Farsi, has been organized by China External Trade Development Council. About 82 firms are displaying 3,335 pieces of more than 500 different kinds of items to be offered to importers in Saudi Arabia. They include textiles, electronic, household furniture, carpets, building materials, musical and sound equipment, handicraft and other goods.

Only items of high quality and those likely to meet the needs of "our friends in Kingdom" have been selected," he said. "Saudi Arabia is a very good friend and we take the utmost care and interest in supplying quality goods at reasonable prices," he added.

The fair was held in Riyadh from Nov. 3 to Dec. 5, will be held here from Wednesday until Dec. 15, and in Dammam from Dec. 20 to Dec. 25. This would help buyers to know what products and quality China can supply, he said.

On the expansion of trade between two countries, Hsueh said imports from Saudi Arabia, which were only \$4.9 million in 1971 have jumped to \$1.4 billion in 1980. The volume of export to Saudi Arabia has increased from \$8 million in 1971 to \$544 million in 1980. During January and September 1981, exports have totaled \$481.7 million and are likely to reach \$650 million

by year end, he added.

Hsueh said that for the benefit of Saudi Arabian importers a list of reputed exporters of various products from the Republic of China is available at the embassy.

He added a fourth agreement was recently reached between the two countries for cooperation in medical services and health, as a result of a visit by Dr. Hussein Al-Jazzeri, minister of health. Under the agreement we will supply doctors, nurses and other medical services for two hospitals of more than 500 beds each, one in Jeddah and another one in Hofuf. There are already 1,200 doctors and nurses from our country working in Kingdom at present, now we are increasing their numbers," he added.

Saudi Arabia supplies nearly 40 percent of the Republic of China's requirements of crude oil and the latter is keen to import more oil from the Kingdom, Hsueh said.

## Sites handed for SR44m works

ALKHOBAR, Dec. 8 (SPA) — Alkhobar Municipality Tuesday handed over work sites for asphaltting, paving and lighting of a number of roads and localities, for which contracts worth SR44.7 million were awarded to two national companies.

According to Mayor Abdul Rahman Al-Rajeh, the project is expected to be completed in a period of 12 months and will cover Prince Turki street; Makkah Road; Streets 4, 16 and 20; all unasphalted streets west of town; streets of plan 26; all streets west of Taqba; Babouniah and Bandriah streets and the green belt.

## Prayer Times

Wednesday	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5:22	5:29	5:01	4:51	5:15	5:49
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:13	12:14	11:45	11:32	11:56	12:26
Asr (Afternoon)	3:18	3:14	2:45	2:29	2:53	3:19
Maghreb (Sunset)	5:40	5:35	5:06	4:49	5:13	5:39
Isha (Night)	7:10	7:05	6:36	6:19	6:43	7:09

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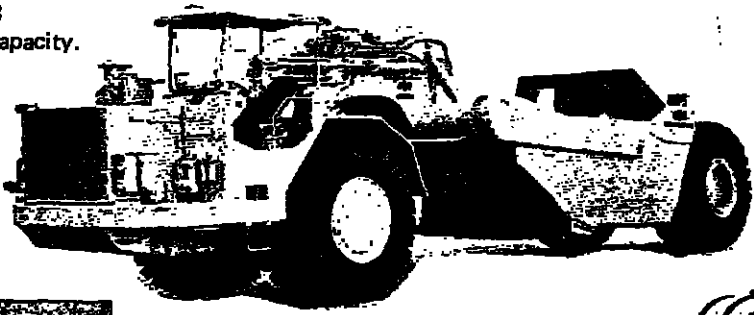
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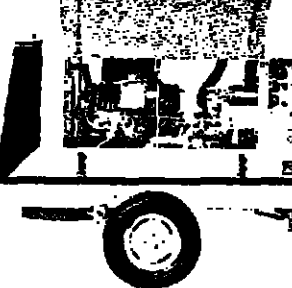
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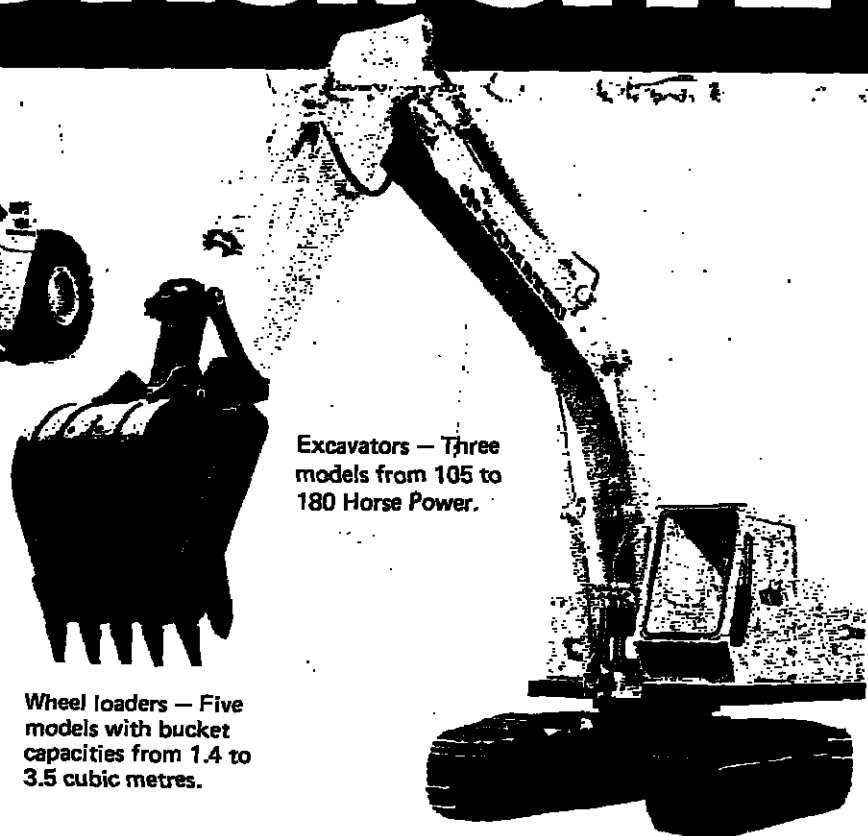
Motor Scraper One model with 23 cubic metres capacity.



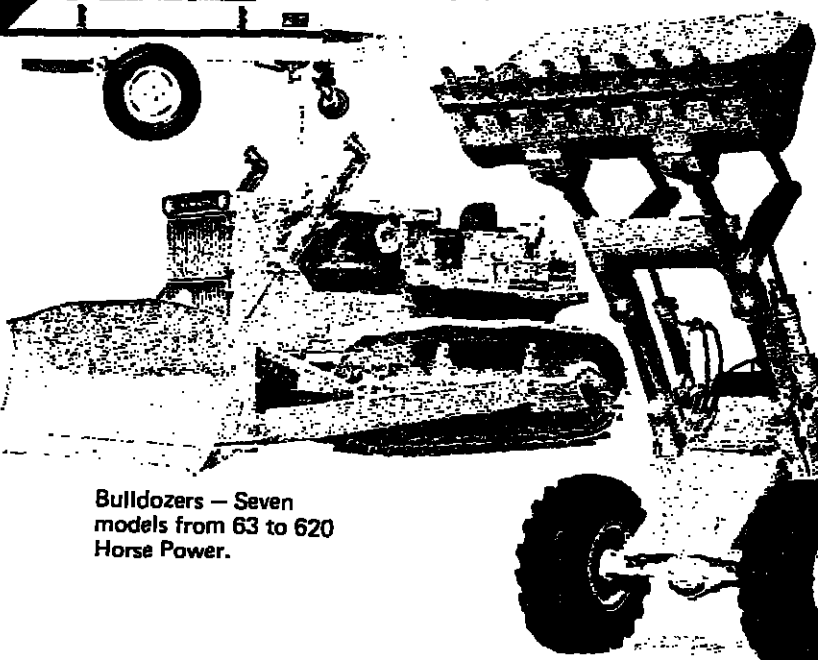
Air Compressors—Four models from 5 to 25.5 cubic metres per min. at 7.0 kg/sq. cm.



Excavators — Three models from 105 to 180 Horse Power.



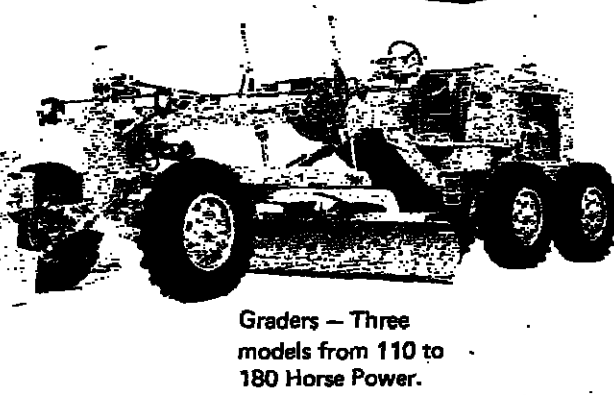
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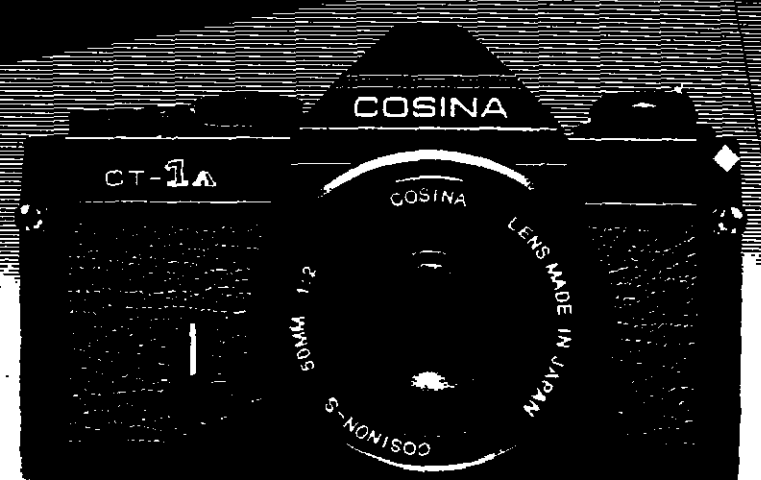
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Annual report states

# SABIC lays basis of petrochemical future

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Dec. 8 — The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation's industrialization program will have an estimated capital cost of about SR35 billion, according to SABIC's annual report for 1980 released recently.

The report, the fourth to be issued by the corporation, stated that the working force required for full operation of the industries will be only about 7,500. That will provide for an average capital investment SR4.6 million per worker. Established with an initial capital of SR10 billion in 1976, SABIC has a great potential to implement industrial projects several times over.

Industry and Electricity Minister Dr. Ghazi Algosabi, SABIC chairman, said in the foreword that questions were raised about the Kingdom's ability to penetrate the field of advanced industry and compete with well-established industrial countries. They dealt with the insufficient infrastructure, lack of industrial background, shortage of trained manpower and an unfavorable environment, but "they were the very questions we asked ourselves right from the beginning," Algosabi wrote.

"In fact, they formed, together with related factors, the basis of our approach to industrialization," he said. The Kingdom also had adopted a principle of full partnership with established international firms — a combination of abundant and stable resources coupled with technical, administrative and marketing expertise. "Hence, we could share both the risks and benefits," Algosabi said.

"Selection of partners also entailed important decisions. They had to have the appropriate background and the adequate technical and administrative experience, so that they could cooperate and work effectively with us," Abdul Aziz Al-Zamel, SABIC vice-chairman and managing director, said in his management report.

SABIC has made a point of selecting industries which meet the Kingdom's resource endowment and long-run comparative advantages, Zamel said. "They are capital and energy-intensive and economize to a great extent on the labor factor," he said.

The corporation's initial capital was covered by the state — thus making it a totally state-owned, but independent body. However, up to 75 percent of its equity capital will become available to Saudi Arabian nationals eventually, according to the report. A major percentage of the capital cost of projects to be provided by the Public Investment Fund (PIF), with commercial loans also as a source of finance. The balance is provided by the joint venture partners in proportion to their respective contribution in equity.

"The extent and size of finance available to SABIC reflects the emphasis given by the government to the industrialization of the country," the report said. SABIC's role is not confined to realizing direct material returns from basic, downstream and supporting industries or creating productive job opportunities to Saudi nationals, in addition to other related activities and services. It will rather contribute to the transfer of technology by laying down a foundation for a dynamic and cumulative progress.

SABIC's Phase I industrialization program, basic industries, includes the implementation of five ethylene-based petrochemical complexes with a total capacity of 1.6 million metric tons per annum; two chemical-grade methanol plants with a total capacity of 1.25 million metric tons a year; and a nitrogenous fertilizer plant with a capacity of 500,000 metric tons of urea annually. In addition, an iron and steel plant in Jubail will produce

800,000 tons per annum, while a steel rolling mill plant in Jeddah modernized and expanded, has an output of 140,000 tons annually.

Al-Jubail Petrochemical Company (Kenya) for which a final agreement was signed between SABIC and Exxon of the U.S. in April, 1980, will produce 260,000 tons annually of low density polyethylene (LDPE). Capital for the joint venture was raised on a 50/50 basis. It is expected to come into production by the beginning of 1985.

Saudi Yanbu Petrochemical Company (Yanpet) was created as a joint venture with Mobil of the U.S. also on the basis of a 50 percent participation in equity capital. Yanpet, expected to reach commercial production by the end of 1984, will produce 200,000 tons of ethylene glycol, 200,000 tons of LDPE and 90,000 tons of high density polyethylene (HDPE) per annum.

Another joint venture with Pecten Arabian Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Shell Oil, established the Saudi Petrochemical Company in September, 1980. Under the venture, the largest petrochemical complex in the world is under construction in Jubail. The complex will produce 256,000 tons of ethylene dichloride, 281,000 tons of ethanol, 295,000 tons of styrene and 377,000 tons of caustic soda; in addition to 656,000 tons of ethylene annually. It is expected to come into production in the second half of 1985.

In 1979, SABIC has concluded four final agreements. The corporation went into a joint venture with the German Kort-Stahl to establish the Saudi Iron and Steel Company (Hadeed) in March, 1979. SABIC holds 80 percent of the equity while the German partners own the remaining 20 percent. The iron and steel complex, to be built in Jubail, will produce 800,000 tons of steel billets, rein-

forcing rods and bars and sponge iron.

In May of the same year, SABIC concluded an agreement with Kort Industrie and Handel GmbH and Co. of Germany for modernizing and expanding the Jeddah Steel Rolling Mill Company (Sylb). The plant's production increased to 140,000 tons per annum as a result of the agreement.

A 50/50 joint venture between SABIC and a Japanese consortium led by Mitsubishi established the Saudi Methanol Company in December, 1979. When the plant goes on-stream in 1985, it will produce 600,000 of chemical-grade methanol a year.

During the same month, another joint venture with the Taiwan Fertilizer Company resulted in the creation of equal-equity venture under the name of Al-Jubail Fertilizer Company (Samad). The plant will come into production in 1983 with a capacity of 500,000 tons of urea per annum.

This year, final agreements for SABIC's last three basic industries were concluded. Celanese and Texas Eastern of the U.S. entered a joint venture with SABIC for building the second methanol complex, the National Methanol Company, with an annual capacity of 500,000 tons.

Dow Chemicals of the United States signed the joint venture for establishing the Arabian Petrochemical Company (Petrokemya) in May. The SR5 billion venture, concluded on a 50/50 basis, provides for building the 500,000-ton-per-annum ethylene plant in Jubail. Meanwhile, the Japanese consortium led by Mitsubishi entered a joint venture for establishing the Eastern Petrochemicals Company (Shark) during the same month. Both plants are expected to go onstream by 1985.

The considerable initial outlays of funds for these projects are expected to accrue proportionately substantial returns. The gross return to the domestic economy when the basic industries reach full production between 1984 and 1987 is estimated at SR10 billion a year, according to the annual report. The total estimated trade benefits to the

country, export earnings and import substitution, would approximately reach SR14 billion, based on the expected sales prices in 1987, the report stated. Taxes paid to the Saudi Arabian government on foreign partners' profits are estimated at about SR870 million a year.

The major creditor, the Public Investment Fund, is expected to receive approximately SR840 million per annum exclusive of the full value of the original loans advanced by the PIF. Commercial banks might earn about SR350 million a year by lending to SABIC projects, the report said.

It added that the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu is expected to receive an average amount of SR300 million per year, as rents and charges to be paid by SABIC's projects for the use of the commission's services and utilities.

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# Cart bomb explosion kills one in Beirut

BEIRUT, Dec. 8 (AP) — A booby-trapped vegetable cart exploded near the pinewood French ambassador's mansion in west Beirut Tuesday and a neighboring hospital said a 60-year-old Lebanese pedestrian was killed and three other men wounded.

Army explosives expert Maj. Youssef Bitar told reporters on the scene the cart was rigged with three kgs of TNT that went off shortly before midday at the neighborhood near the commercial quarter that divides east and west Beirut.

Bitar said he believed two persons were killed in the blast near a checkpoint manned by Syrian peacekeeping forces a few dozen meters from the main gate of the official residence of French Ambassador Paul March-Henry. But officials at Barbir Hospital to which all the victims were rushed, said only one person was killed and that the cart vendor was among the four injured, all of whom

underwent emergency surgery. Tank-supported Syrian troops, who police Lebanon's five-year-old civil war armistice cordoned off the blast scene, stopping incoming traffic from both sides of the blast area until the victims were evacuated by ambulances.

Three privately-owned cars with Lebanese plate numbers sustained considerable damage as a result of the splinters that littered the scene. This was the first time that a cart has been used for a booby trap. Most of the major seven bombings that claimed 147 lives in northern, central, and southern Lebanon since Sep. 17 resulted from booby-trapped cars.

Prior to Tuesday's cart blast, three explosive charges went off in the elevators of three apartment buildings in different residential neighborhoods in west Beirut Monday, killing a nine-month-old baby girl and wounding four other children and one man by official police counts.

## Habib leaves after talks with Sarkis

BEIRUT, Dec. 8 (Agencies) — U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib wrapping up a 10-day tour of six Middle Eastern countries in an effort to preserve the ceasefire in south Lebanon, met Tuesday with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis before leaving the country.

Habib was expected to return to the United States but members of his entourage refused to confirm this. U.S. Embassy spokesmen were unavailable for comment for more than an hour after Habib's executive jet took off from Beirut airport. Habib arrived here from

Israel Tuesday morning to brief Sarkis on his talks with other leaders in the region.

Habib spent one hour and 15 minutes at the presidential palace in suburban Baabda. The son of a Lebanese immigrant to the United States, he opened his session with Sarkis with an exchange of chitchat in Arabic in the presence of photographers and reporters. The meeting was also attended by U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon and U.S. State Department official Morris Draper.

# Haig leaves on visit to 7 states

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig left early Wednesday on an 11-day trip to seven countries that is likely to focus on strengthening alliances in Europe and Asia.

His brief stops in Israel and Egypt are likely to deal with regional security issues, the Camp David peace process and Israeli-Egyptian talks on Palestinian self-rule. Haig will also stop in Morocco, where he and King Hassan will discuss Morocco's war with the Polisario in Western Sahara, U.S. arms supplies and the recent Arab summit in Fez.

## Iran guards kill 38 Komuleh men

TEHRAN, Dec. 8 (AFP) — Iranian revolutionary guards killed 38 fighters of the Komuleh Autonomist movement Sunday during a seven-hour clash near Takab in Kurdistan, *The Islamic Republic* daily reported Tuesday.

The newspaper said a Komuleh camp was destroyed in this operation and that in other clashes, seven "American mercenaries" of the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party were killed when they attacked a Pasdaran guard post near Miandhoab in western Azerbaijan.

Meanwhile, Pars news agency reported that a nine-year-old boy was killed and 10 persons wounded, two of them seriously, when a car bomb exploded Monday in Boroujerd, Lorestan province, western Iran. The agency said the blast damaged buildings and cars in a 100-yard radius.

# U.N. committee assails Israel's canal project

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (R) — The United States and Israel cast the only negative votes Monday against a resolution demanding that Israel halt a project to build a canal between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea.

The draft was approved by the General Assembly's special political committee by 114 votes to two against, with three abstentions (Guatemala, Paraguay and Uruguay).

The resolution, certain to be endorsed by the assembly plenary, would also request the Security Council to "consider initiating measures to halt the execution of this project," and would call on all states not to assist either directly or indirectly in its preparation or execution.

## Egypt to raze villas near pyramids

CAIRO, Dec. 8 (AP) — Weekend cottages dotting the desert next to the great pyramids will be razed by the end of the year on orders of the Egyptian Ministry of Culture, the official Middle East News Agency said Monday.

Houses to be destroyed for "encroaching on the pyramids area" reportedly include a resthouse where the late President Anwar Sadat received guests like former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The U.S. embassy and other foreign missions are among buildings ordered affected by the order, the daily *Al-Gomhuriya* said. The move comes as the latest attempt to lessen the threat of erosion to the

5,000-year-old monuments posed by sewage seepage from the houses and automobile exhaust fumes from owners driving by regularly. The news agency said it was also meant to restore the site's scenic beauty.

Many individuals and organizations own about 200 small-to-medium sized chalets near the pyramids, some nine kilometers southwest of downtown Cairo, bungalows which are mostly used as weekend homes or picnic resorts for day-trips. The order issued by the culture minister covers about 50 bungalows considered too close to the historic tombs.

# Israelis force Gaza strikers to open shops

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8 (AP) — Israeli troops forced striking shopkeepers in the occupied city of Gaza to open their stores Tuesday, while fresh stone-throwing incidents were reported in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah.

"The Israelis are catching people in the street and asking for their identity cards, and if they are shopowners, they are being forced to go to their stores and open up," a Gaza resident told the Associated Press by telephone. The military welded the shut doors of stores whose owners refused to open, he said. The area was closed to reporters, Israel radio said.

The Gaza Strip has been going through a week of strikes and demonstrations over issues ranging from opposition to Israeli rule to the levying of a 12-percent Israeli value added tax (VAT) on all financial transactions. The municipality of Nabliis, the largest town in the West Bank, called a sympathy strike for the Gazans.

## Kyprianou hopeful on resumed U.N. talks

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 (R) — Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou conferred Monday with the president of the General Assembly and said later he believed he had succeeded in keeping open the possibility of a resumed assembly session on Cyprus. "I think we have succeeded, that's my impression," Kyprianou told Reuters after conferring with Assembly President Ismat Kittani of Iraq.

The assembly, which has not debated the Cyprus question at the current session that opened Sept. 15, is due to end its work Dec. 15. But the Cypriot government has been anxious for the session to be suspended, rather than finally closed, so as to retain the option of having the item debated at a resumed session.

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## BRIEFS

KHARTOUM, (AFP) — Sudanese President Jaafar i Numeiri has written a book on his friend Anwar Sadat, the Egyptian president who was assassinated two months ago.

KUWAIT, (R) — Malaysian Head of State Sultan Ahmad Shah had talks Tuesday on bilateral relations and the world situation with the ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Jabar Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah, a government spokesman said.

NEW DELHI, (R) — Afghan President Babrak Karmal will visit Bulgaria in the second half of this month, Kabul radio reported

Monday. WASHINGTON, (AP) — A greater U.S. role in the Palestinian autonomy talks is planned soon by the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, according to Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's opposition Labor Party.

TEL AVIV, (R) — A full-scale strike by Israeli citrus growers closed down packing plants and stopped fruit being shipped to the ports for export, the citrus marketing board said Tuesday.

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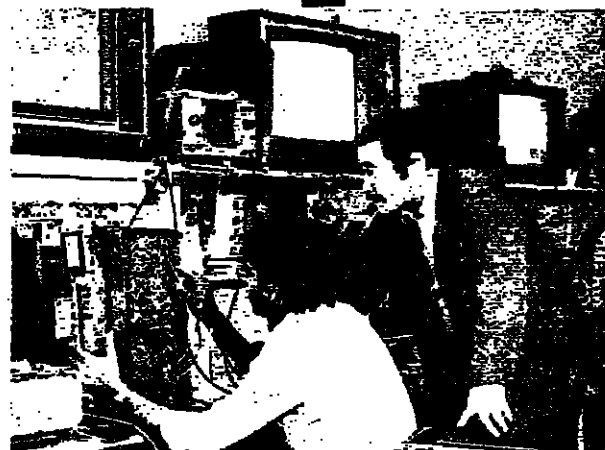
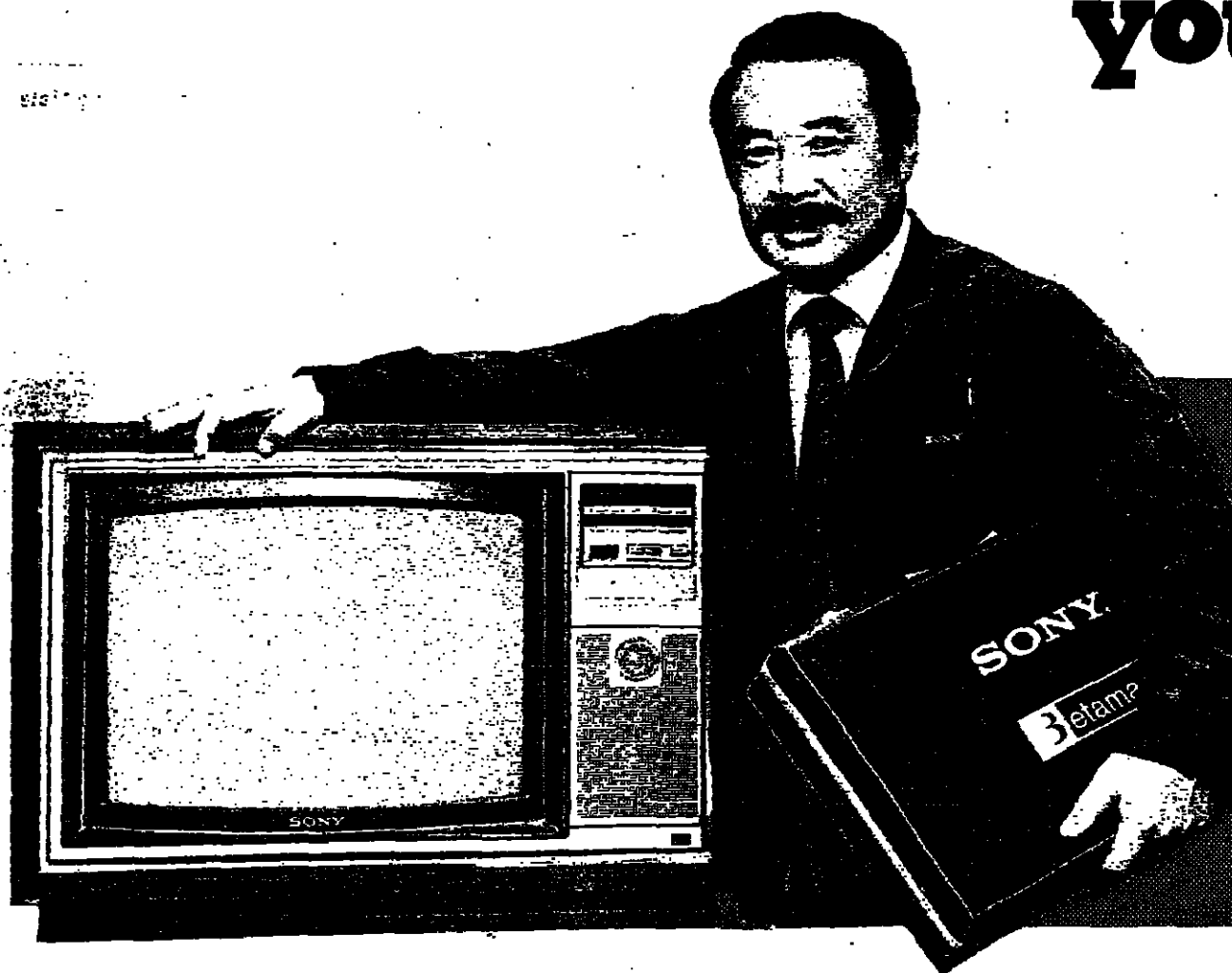
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Editor in Chief  
**MUHAMMAD M. AL-SHIBANI**

General Manager  
**SAUD ALI HAFIZ**

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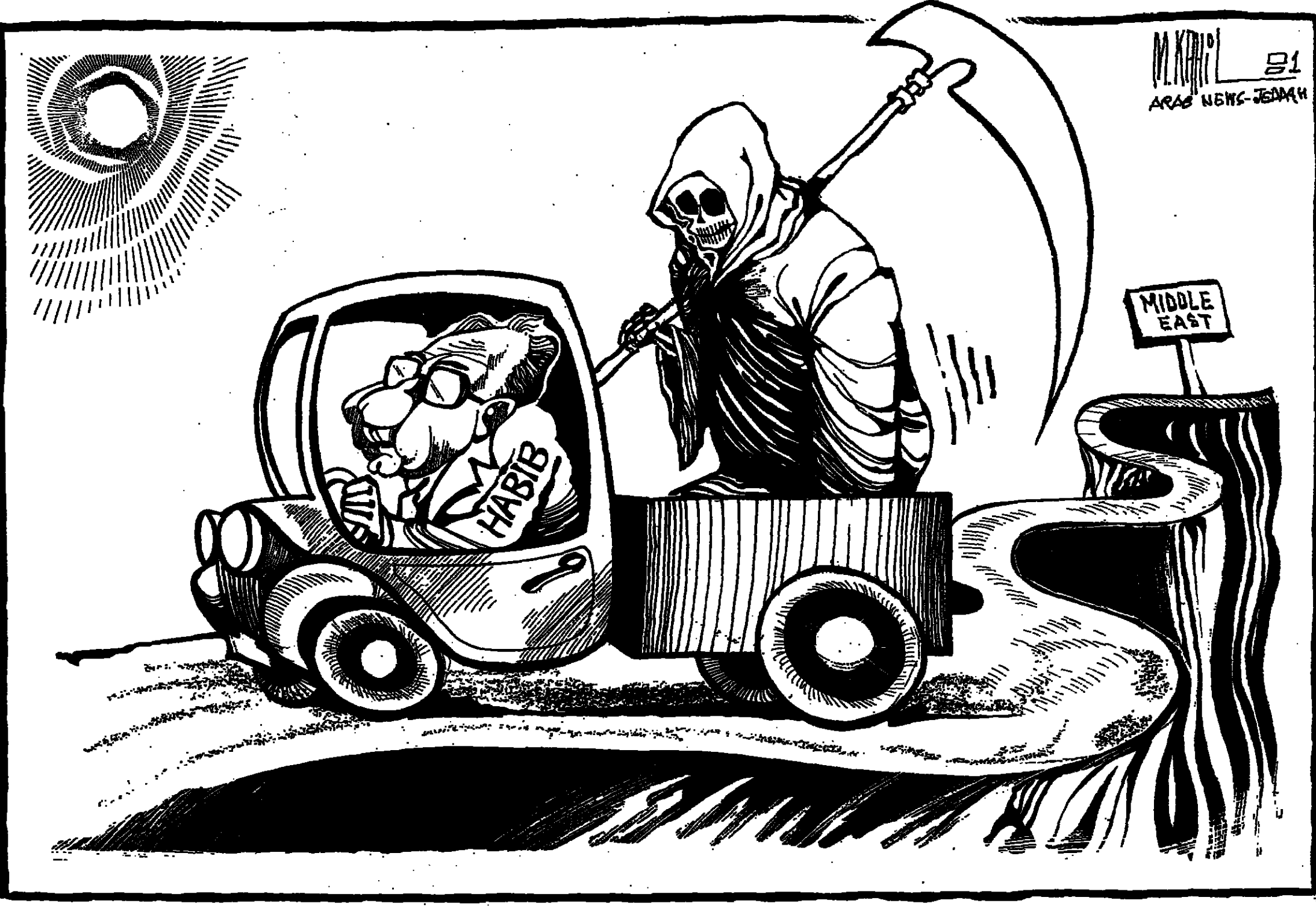
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## Europe's peace movement seen as a windfall for Soviets

By Robert Gillette  
MOSCOW —

The argument over the need for American nuclear weapons in Europe is as old as the Atlantic Alliance itself. But the argument entered a critical new phase last week with the opening in Geneva of the first formal negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union on limiting so-called theater nuclear forces.

The formal talks, which are likely to prove as complex and arduous as any the two superpowers have yet attempted, are clearly, at least in the Soviet view, only half the battle. The other half is in the public arena, where Moscow appears convinced it has the upper hand and may even stand a chance of accomplishing in the streets of Western Europe what it is not likely to win at the bargaining table — namely cancellation of the 1979 North Atlantic Treaty Organization decision to deploy 572 new Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles in Western Europe capable of striking the Soviet homeland.

Certainly one purpose of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's recent visit to West Germany — the proposed site of 204 of the missiles — was to help maintain the public relations momentum.

Even if the anti-nuclear grassroots fails by itself to deter NATO's deployment plans, the political pressures engendered by continued street demonstrations in Europe against nuclear arms — not exclusively but mainly those NATO wants to position — have established an atmosphere for the Geneva talks have accused each other in advance of plotting to derail the negotiations. But Washington, with the start of its proposed missile deployment still two years off (at the end of 1983) and still vulnerable to public attitudes, has more to lose by appearing intransigent than do the Soviets, whose own deployment of medium-range SS-20s began in 1975 and proceeds at the rate of one a week with no known objections from the Soviet public. More than 250 of these new, mobile missiles are now in place, each with three 150-kiloton warheads.

It would be a mistake, in the view of most Western diplomatic analysts here, to attribute Western Europe's blossoming peace movement and its overtones of neutralism wholly or even largely to Soviet subterfuge. Few if any analysts think Moscow can turn street demonstrations on and off at will in Bonn or Amsterdam, though it can certainly encourage and assist, and has. The peace movement is rooted in genuine fears that the Reagan administration means to accelerate the arms race, that the president may be trigger happy and that the next conflict in Europe — as Brezhnev explained it in his interview with the editors of the West German magazine *Der Spiegel* — will see the "crowded and fragile" continent of Europe engulfed in nuclear conflagration and reduced to what the Soviet news agency Tass has vividly described as a "radioactive desert."

Diplomats here tend to consider the anti-nuclear arms movement as essentially a windfall for the Soviets, aided substantially by loose talk in Washington about the feasibility of limited nuclear war in Europe and contingency plans for firing nuclear warheads across the Soviet bow should a conventional war break out.

"The Soviets have thrown a little oil on the fire, but it has not cost them a big investment," one experienced European political analyst said last week. "Suddenly the theory is invented, I don't know where, that basing missiles in Europe will be suicide because it invites counterattacks. This has been a fantastic propaganda success for the Soviets."

The Soviets have conducted a relentless public relations drive in the controlled Soviet press and in Eastern Europe, particularly Germany, aimed at convincing Europeans that the Reagan administration teeters on the brink of insanity while the Brezhnev leadership offers the alternatives of sweet reason and humanitarian peace.

The rhetoric offered up daily by the Soviet press reads like an inverted caricature of the anti-Soviet statements that emanated from Washington a few months ago. "The struggle for peace has now become worldwide," the Central Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* said not long ago in a front-page commentary. "Millions upon millions of people are becoming increasingly determined to thwart the man-hating plans of the militarist circles of the USA and NATO to deploy deadly new nuclear missile

weapons in Europe and to plunge the European Continent into the abyss of the thermonuclear catastrophe.

"Guided by lofty human principles, the countries of the Socialist community have been doing their utmost to safeguard fundamental human rights, first and foremost the right to life, which the aggressive forces of capitalist imperialism, primarily U.S. imperialism, are encroaching by having unleashed the unprecedented arms race and hatching criminal plans for a world nuclear war."

Given this high emotional pitch, it has not been easy, until recently, to discern the logical thread of Soviet arguments against new NATO missiles and in favor of its own, much less to judge the merits of the Soviet case.

The rhetoric is showing signs of softening, however, in the wake of President Reagan's Nov. 18 offer to cancel deployment of NATO's new missiles if the Soviets scrap their SS-20s and the older SS-4s and SS-5s they're replacing. After a welter of initially harsh reactions, for instance, *The Literary Gazette*, a prominent weekly dismissed the American offer as unworthy of "thinking people" but added that "this is not the main point. The most important thing is that Reagan has spoken about peace and about negotiations, including talks about reducing arms in Europe." The president, the newspaper averred, was "panicked" into a conciliatory position by the European peace movement.

At the same time, as the Geneva talks have approached, the Soviets have been to elaborate in unusual detail their case for the SS-20 and against NATO missiles, notably in a 74-page pamphlet entitled "The Threat to Europe" published the day before Brezhnev left for Bonn.

The Soviet case for the SS-20, or at least the one Moscow is offering for public consideration, stands on three main points:

First, that the Soviet Union was obliged in the 1950s to deploy medium-range nuclear missiles to counter NATO's "forward-based systems," the nuclear-armed U.S. aircraft based in Europe. "This causal relationship is still valid," the new pamphlet argues, because the United States still keeps hundreds of forward-based aircraft in Europe and has refused to include them in strategic arms limitation talks.

Second, the Soviets contend that they are not only "entitled to modernize" their theater nuclear weaponry as is NATO but that they must do so because the current force of 20-year-old SS-4 and SS-5 missiles is obsolete. "Failure to do so would have been tantamount to having no such weapons at all."

The Soviets do not dispute Western reports that the SS-20 is more mobile and much quicker to launch than the missiles it is replacing, and is therefore less vulnerable to preemptive attack; that the SS-20 has a much longer range than its predecessors (over 3,000 miles versus 1,000 for the SS-4 and 2,200 for the SS-5); that the SS-20 carries three warheads instead of one atop each of the old mis-

siles; and that it is much more accurate.

"Far be it from us to maintain that the SS-20 (the Soviets consistently use the NATO designation rather than disclosing their own) are all but inferior to the old Soviet missiles," the new pamphlet observes with uncharacteristic modesty. But it then insists that the SS-20, for all the improvements, is not radically different from the old ones and in any case has the same mission: deterring NATO's forward-based systems.

The SS-20's high degree of accuracy — by some Western reports it can strike reliably within 440 feet of its targets at a range of 2,500 miles — have raised fears that in a single preemptive blow the new Soviet medium-range missile force could eliminate NATO's nuclear arsenal (stored in only about 50 sites and dependent on about 10 command and communications centers) in a single paralyzing blow. West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is said to have had this theoretical possibility in mind when he first raised the SS-20 problem publicly in 1977.

The Soviet pamphlet, which officials have made clear is authoritative, dismisses such fears with the assurance that "Soviet military doctrine does not allow for a first or a preemptive strike" by Moscow. In any case, the argument goes, "a first strike in Western Europe would have no sense from any point of view, for it would only expose our country to a riposte by an absolutely intact U.S. strategic arsenal." Whether in fact the Soviets believe they risk such a riposte is a key question in the current debate and is central to the NATO rationale for deploying its own new missiles.

The third Soviet contention is that the SS-20 merely brings the medium-range nuclear forces of NATO and the Warsaw Pact into approximate balance. The Soviet Union, by Moscow's count, now has 975 nuclear missiles and aircraft at its disposal for the European theater against 986 for NATO — a pair of figures the United States contests.

Conversely, the Soviet case against basing advanced Pershing and Cruise missiles in Europe has two points. Another 572 missiles would give NATO a 50 percent advantage, the Soviets maintain. But more important from their viewpoint, the new U.S. missiles would constitute an additional strategic nuclear force for the United States beyond the limits of SALT II because both missiles (with ranges of 1,000 and 1,500 miles respectively) can hit the Soviet homeland from Western Europe. Whatever Europeans might think, SS-20s by the Soviet definition are not strategic missiles because they cannot reach the United States.

Arguments over numbers are likely to dog the Geneva talks for some time. U.S. officials contend the Soviets have exaggerated the number of American nuclear-armed aircraft in Europe, inappropriately counted British and French missiles and bombers on the NATO side that are in fact "totally independent." Of the NATO command, greatly understated the number of their own aircraft capable of striking Western Europe with nuclear weapons and failed to count a new Soviet missile,

the SS-22, with an estimated range of 500 miles.

President Reagan's assertion that the Soviet Union now holds an "overwhelming" six-to-one advantage in medium-range nuclear forces is based on a U.S. count of 360 nuclear-armed American aircraft in Europe (not the more than 700 the Soviets count) against more than 3,725 Soviet missiles and aircraft, including 2,700 fighters capable of carrying nuclear weapons, but which the Soviets say are mostly dedicated to air defense.

Moreover, the 572 new missiles NATO plans to deploy include 108 advanced Pershing 2 missiles that would replace an equal number of 18-year-old Pershing 1 missiles in West Germany which, with a range of only 450 miles, can't reach the Soviet homeland. The notion that the new missiles would supplement American strategic forces is undermined by the fact that their use would be subject to veto by heads of state in which they are based.

But the critical U.S. argument in favor of deployment has less to do with balancing numbers than with maintaining a convincing link between U.S. strategic forces and NATO's defense of Europe.

This has been one of NATO's central problems from the beginning: To ensure that both Western Europeans and the Soviets believed that the United States would use its nuclear forces to defend Europe in the event of a Soviet attack. Preservation of this belief has always been considered tantamount to preservation of an effective deterrent.

A number of Western defense analysts now believe that the emergence of strategic nuclear equality between the United States and the Soviet Union, and the growing vulnerability of the U.S. force of land-based Minuteman missiles to increasingly accurate Soviet warheads, means potentially that Moscow could effectively checkmate the U.S. strategic deterrent — "decouple" it in the current jargon — in an attack on Europe. In theory, this line of reasoning goes, the Soviets now have or soon will have the potential to strike a paralyzing blow at NATO with medium-range missiles while holding U.S. strategic forces at bay. In other words, if Washington agrees not to hit Minsk in retaliation for a strike against Hamburg, Moscow will spare Chicago.

Small weapons, but weapons comparable to the SS-20 and based in Europe, it is argued, would make NATO better prepared to deter Soviet attack in the first place by an ability to respond in kind, at least initially, rather than threatening to escalate immediately to the use of central U.S. strategic weapons. In so doing, the reasoning goes, the coupling between European defense and the American nuclear strategic deterrent would be strengthened and the chance of nuclear war in Europe reduced.

As the new arms talks get under way, the attitudes of the Western European public, unlike those of the Soviet public, will loom large in Geneva. Compared with the vivid image of Europe as a radioactive desert conjured by the Soviets, selling the concept of coupling will be an uphill job. (LAT)

## DOUBLE TALK

The French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson visited Israel yesterday to prepare the way for the forthcoming visit of President Mitterrand in February, but he goofed.

An Israeli newspaper quoted, Cheysson could have been misquoted, that as long as his government was in power there will be no European or French attempts to find a just solution for the Middle East question. That is one grave error of statesmanship.

He was also said to have urged direct Arab-Israeli talks to solve their outstanding disputes. That was an error of judgment because he well knew that Israel, thanks to U.S. support, is overwhelmingly superior to the Arabs in military terms. It has some of the latest American weapons which are more lethal than anything the Arabs have at present. So why should Israel make concessions as long as it is in such a good position? Cheysson will remember that when his country was occupied by the Nazis during the last world war Hitler refused to make concessions and continued to maintain his hold on the country and the brave French people. The people resorted to the famous resistance to make the German occupation a costly exercise. This is what the Palestinians aim to do failing a peaceful and negotiated settlement.

That settlement would have been made a little more possible had France encouraged the Europeans to put forward their own ideas for a solution. We already know the American ideas. The best they could produce were the Camp David accords which even France has spurned.

Now Cheysson, speaking probably on behalf of Mitterrand, has cold-shouldered the Europeans and poured ice water on any future initiative, although Mitterrand had said something else when he recently visited the Kingdom. He saw some positive aspects in the proposed Saudi Arabian peace plan and talked kindly of the Palestinians.

We hate to think that Socialist France is either confused about the issues in this part of the world or has resorted to double talk to win the friendship of both sides. It has certainly lost a lot of confidence as a result of Cheysson's reckless remarks.

## Saudi Arabian press review

The necessity of adopting a unified Arab stand on the Saudi Arabian peace plan for the Middle East, Philip Habib's mission to the region and the visit of French Minister of External Affairs Claude Cheysson to Israel figured for editorial comments in Tuesday's newspapers.

Commenting on the Kingdom's peace plan, *Al-Bilad* observed that the eight-point plan has successfully exposed the Zionist designs in the region and has provided a new dimension for the Arab strategy in the upcoming stage to uncover all plots against the Arab nation.

The paper welcomed the growing acceptance of the plan by Europe and other peace-loving nations as "the most suitable alternative" for ensuring a just and lasting peace in the region.

Dealing with Cheysson's visit to Israel, *Al-Jazirah* said the visit will have no positive outcome as Israel has already rejected the French viewpoint which stresses the need for ensuring a homeland for the Palestinians and the necessity of the PLO participation in any future Middle East negotiations.

The paper felt Israel will exploit the visit to blackmail France by

distorting the realities of the region and forcing France to make pledges for Israel's security.

Writing on the mission of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib, *Okaz* said the Kingdom has told Habib that "the continued American support to Israel will not help achieve a just and durable peace in the region."

"The Kingdom's leaders have explained to the U.S. envoy that any aggression on Arab lands will be faced with a unified Arab stand.

*Al-Riyadh* deplored the contradictions in the declared principles and slogans of the Iranian rulers and their actual behavior and repressive policies.

"The Islamic slogans raised irrationally by the Khomeini regime will no more fool the man on Iranian streets. Moreover, popular resistance to the criminal actions of Khomeini's revolutionary guards against Iranians is increasing," the paper said. (SPA)

## U.S. restraint urged in Central America

By George Geddes  
WASHINGTON —

Fresh consultations with Latin American leaders apparently have convinced the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan that diplomacy, not military action, offers the best hope for preserving U.S. interests in the Caribbean-Central American region.

The administration had seemed headed toward a confrontation with Nicaragua because of a perception that that nation's Sandinista government was about to become a Soviet beachhead in Central America, a launching pad for leftist revolution throughout the region. Cuba also had been seen as a potential U.S. target.

Although the administration remains concerned about Nicaragua's political course, extensive discussions last month with Venezuelan and Mexican officials and at an Organization of American States meeting in St. Lucia last week seem to have tempered any inclination to pursue a military solution. Three weeks ago, President Reagan ruled out use

of combat forces in the area, but Secretary of State Alexander Haig had left open the possibility of limited activities. There was some talk, for example, of a naval blockade.

Since the administration's early days, Haig has hoped the implied threat of U.S. military action would moderate the behavior of both Nicaragua and Cuba. Although both nations have denied it, they have been accused by the administration of promoting leftist revolution in Central America, particularly in El Salvador.

The main drawback of the U.S. threats was that they renewed fears throughout Latin America of unilateral American military intervention. In that area, "Yankee imperialism" remains an explosive political issue.

Haig heard forceful appeals for U.S. restraint in his talks with Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, from Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo and in discussions with OAS foreign ministers. Now the Reagan administration appears to be pinning its hopes on a still undefined form of collective action with some OAS members that share U.S.

concerns about the area but oppose unilateral American military action.

In the coming weeks, the U.S. administration plans additional consultations with these nations to cope with what Haig describes as the dangers of "terror and war in the region."

The administration recognizes that action by the OAS as a whole is not likely because there is no consensus on what course to pursue. OAS reticence to take such action was dramatized in 1979 when, during the final month of Anastasio Somoza's rule in Nicaragua, the United States proposed an inter-American force be sent there to oversee the transition to a new government. The proposal was rejected by OAS members almost unanimously.

The administration's strategy over dealing with the existing situation appears to rely heavily on quiet appeals to Nicaragua from countries friendly with both the United States and Nicaragua. This could be coupled with increased military and economic aid to El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, the countries which have been threatened by Nicaragua. (AP)



# Brave faces displayed in Brixton, unemployment, crime cause worries

By Stephen Powell

LONDON, (R) — They call it "the front-line" Brixton's Raiton Road. In April the worst riots in London this century raged around this area, as thousands of police fought a three-day battle with young blacks and a few whites.

The street still looks as if it suffered a bout of civil war. Buildings blackened by fire rear above corrugated iron fencing. Demolition teams add to the desolation.

What was once a tailor's shop is now only a forlorn frontage, with a pile of rubble behind the one standing wall.

Business in the area is slack. Brixton's shopkeepers are putting on a brave face, displaying "We're backing Brixton" stickers in their windows.

But privately, the tone is different. "I'd just love to get out," said one white storekeeper

whose shop was looted in April. "So would a lot of others, but they just can't sell their houses or their businesses. No-one wants to buy."

The violence in Brixton in which more than 300 people were injured, foreshadowed two weeks of upheaval in other major British cities in July. Parts of Toxteth in Liverpool and Moss Side in Manchester went up in flames.

In an attempt to ensure such violence does not recur, a senior British judge put forward proposals for reform. Lord Scarman, in an official report published late in November, said the Brixton riots were essentially an outburst of anger and resentment by young black people against the police.

Stressing the urgency of the situation, he made several recommendations on how to improve relations between the police and ethnic minorities.

He also made a plea for a general improvement in the living conditions of Britain's two million black and Asian citizens — almost four percent of the population.

He argued for positive discrimination in favor of the blacks to tackle the "poison" of racial disadvantage in Britain. "Urgent action is needed if it is not to become an endemic, ineradicable disease threatening the very survival of our society," he said.

Community leaders in Brixton, one of the most depressed of London's inner city suburbs south of the River Thames, are now waiting to see what happens to Lord Scarman's recommendations.

Since the riots, they say, nothing has been done to improve conditions in the area.

Graham Kent, at the Raiton Road Community Center, said government cuts in spending have hit projects for a family center, a health center, housing and street lighting.

The south London borough of Lambeth, which includes Brixton, has formidable problems. The borough, with a population of 245,000, has a housing waiting list of 18,000 families.

Susan Whitehead, official spokeswoman for the Lambeth Borough Council, said: "It's impossible to exaggerate the depth of poverty and overcrowding in Lambeth."

The borough has virtually no funds to rehabilitate the area's old houses. Unemployment and crime remain high. About half of Brixton's black youngsters under 19 are out of work and police say crime is rising sharply.

The Conservative Party government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher responded favorably to Lord Scarman's views on police reform.

His proposals included a longer training period for police, more black policemen and an independent investigation of complaints against the police. The present system is for the police to look into such complaints themselves.

There has been no sign, however, that the government is prepared to inject large sums of money into black areas, in line with Lord Scarman's philosophy of positive discrimination.

Despite a resounding Conservative defeat last week in a parliamentary by-election, Mrs. Thatcher has said she will stick to her policy of fighting inflation by trying to hold down public spending.

Local leaders feel money has to be made available if the riots are not to be repeated. Kent said: "There's got to be a massive injection of funds and we've got to work at police/community liaison. It's got to be serious and it's got to be deep. Without the cash and without the trust we're in for a rough ride."

A moderate black leader, Courtney Laws, echoed his views. "If the government does not act they will only have themselves to blame if there is more rioting," he said.

# Gun ownership discouraged, British police are cautious

By William Taub

LONDON (LAT) — If Nancy Reagan had applied in Britain for a permit for her "tiny little gun" she says she kept near her bed in Los Angeles, she would have been turned down flat.

"Under no circumstances would we grant a permit for a firearm just for personal protection," a senior Scotland Yard official said recently. "Personal protection is the responsibility of our police force."

And while President Reagan continues to oppose gun control, even after the attempt on his life last March, officials here want to see gun control tightened even further in Britain.

"We need tougher regulations, particularly concerning shotguns," one official said.

British law, an official of the Home Office said, provides that "you may not possess or acquire rifles, pistols, revolvers and shotguns unless you have already obtained a certificate from your local police, and they will not issue a certificate unless they are satisfied that you have good reason for having it, that public safety is not endangered and that you are fit to be entrusted with a firearm."

Because of rules like this, there are only 8,000 to 9,000 handguns and about 30,000 shotguns in the British Isles, among a population of 55 million.

By contrast, in the United States, with more than 220 million people, it is estimated that there are more than 55 million handguns alone, plus 150 million to 200 million rifles and shotguns.

According to the Home Office official, the British police may also impose conditions for issuing a certificate, and may revoke it. Moreover, certificates must be renewed

every three years.

Generally, licenses are issued only to members of registered target-shooting clubs. Shotgun and rifle licenses are issued only to citizens who can show acceptable reasons for shooting and hunting.

Gun licenses are not issued to private detectives, nor are private security agencies allowed to issue firearms to their officers.

Citizens applying for certificates to own rifles or shotguns must convince the police that they have a landowner's permission to hunt on his land. Further, they can be checked out by the police to make sure that they can handle a weapon properly.

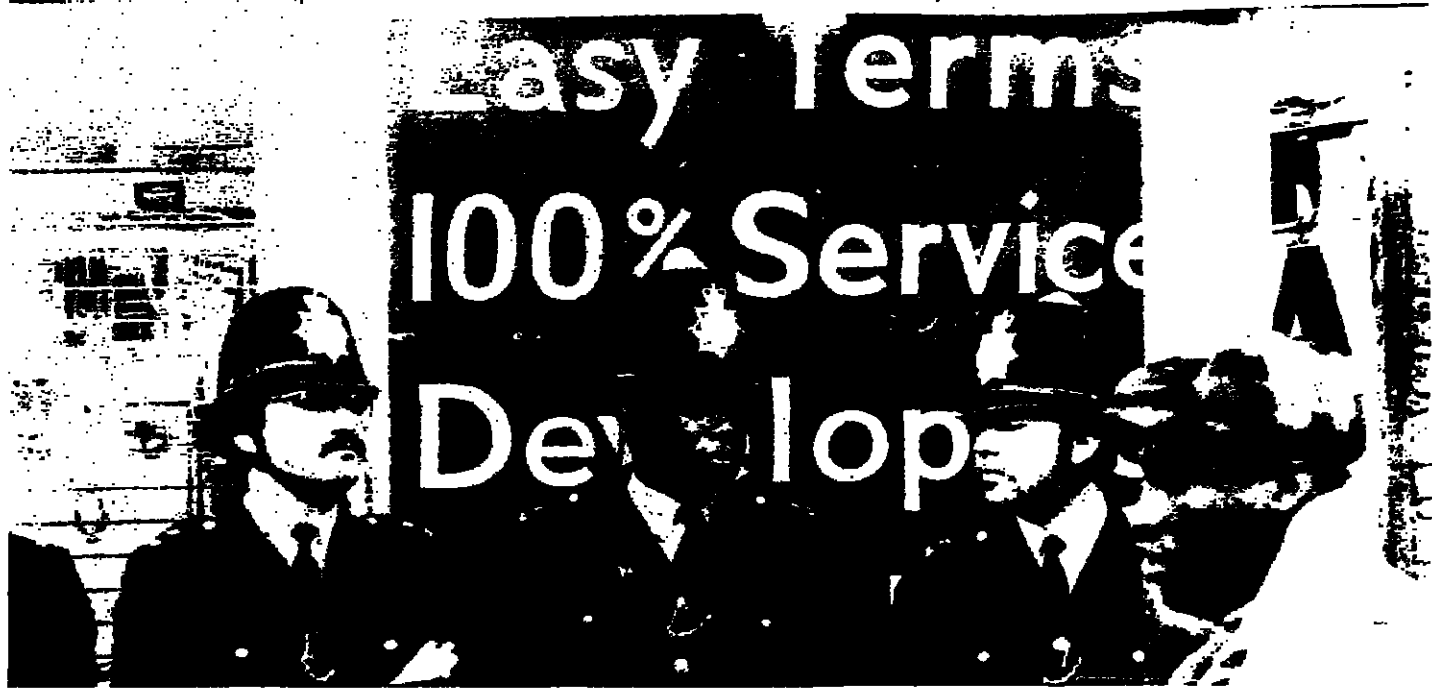
"We think the shotgun is the toy of the landed gentry," a Scotland Yard official said, "and the legislation on the issuance of shotgun certificates is weaker than we think necessary."

Automatic weapons are prohibited altogether, as are such defensive agents as tear gas sprays. There was public row in the northern city of Manchester when the police there purchased two submachine guns for emergency use.

The British attitude toward guns carries over to the national police force. Since its founding 150 years ago, the British police force has rarely used weapons. Bobbies on the beat invariably go unarmed.

"You'd entrust a spitfire to an 18-year-old pilot during the battle of Britain," one law enforcement official said, "but not (a gun) to a 23-year-old policeman. It shows how conscious the public is of the police image of not carrying arms."

Only about one-fifth of Britain's 120,000 policemen are even trained in the use of firearms. And few of these carry weapons under normal circumstances.




BRIXTON RIOT SCENES: Burned out building is shown in the above photo during the height of the riots. Below, policemen are shown apprehending some of the culprits.

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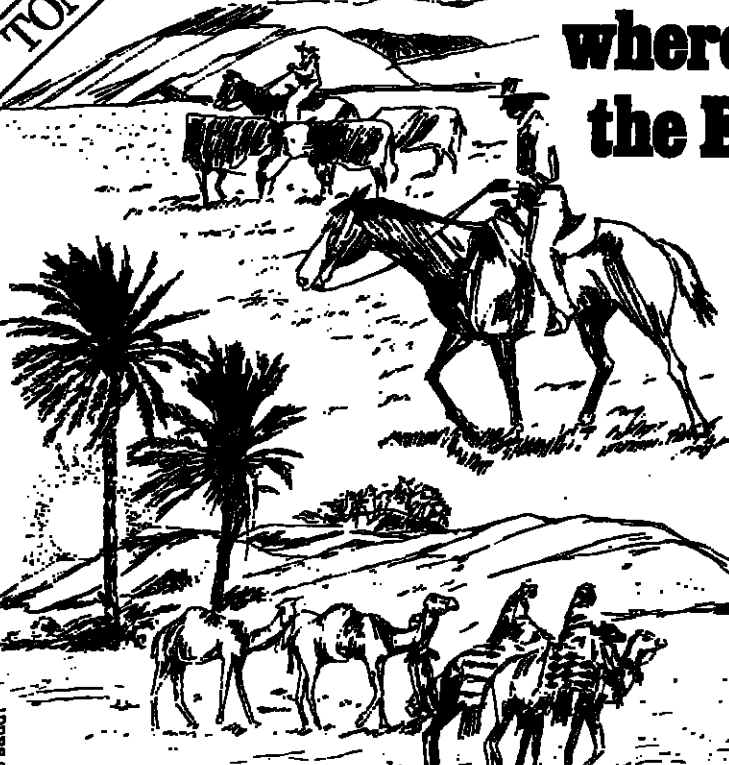


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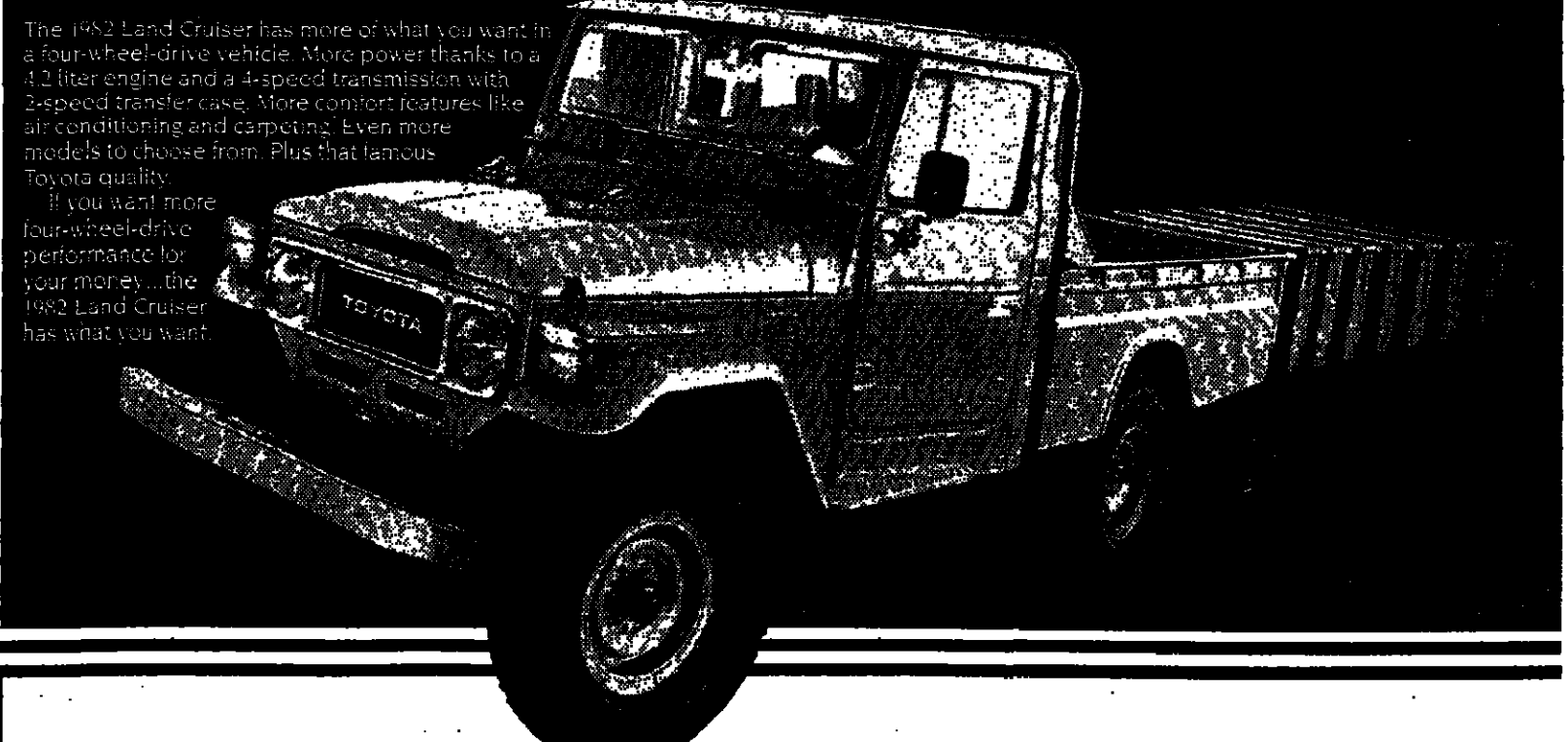


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# Surprise snowstorm kills 8 in America

NEW YORK, Dec. 8 (AP) — A surprise snowstorm that killed eight persons and stranded thousands forced schools to close across New England Monday, while more rain fell in flooded Oregon and southern California was socked again with thick fog that has caused six deaths.

The surprise snowstorm, the worst in three seasons, dumped up to 2 feet (61 cms) of snow, hitting Massachusetts and Rhode Island the hardest. Gusty winds piled the snow into drifts, and motorists abandoned their cars on snowbound highways. Airports and schools were closed, and on the vacation island of Nantucket, 2,000 holiday revelers were stranded and as many as 30 whales beached themselves.

A special ferry was sent to Nantucket Monday to pick up the stranded visitors. But many of them were believed to get off the island late Monday on planes which were making regular runs.

Schools and colleges were closed Monday in most of Rhode Island and eastern Massachusetts, and much of eastern Connecticut. The storm that carried the snow was

thought to be heading to sea, but it first swept inland and dumped 1 1/2 feet (46 cms) of snow on Boston, the most in one day in 50 years, and 15 inches (38 cms) in Providence, Rhode Island.

Power lines in Rhode Island were knocked down, and 50,000 residents lost electricity. The weather service measured 10 1/2 inches (27 cms) of snow at snowbound Logan, the heaviest 24-hour snowfall in December since 1926.

In southern California, one of the six persons who died because of the fog was a motorcyclist who perished on a San Diego freeway, where driver after driver ignored the low visibility, flying into a pile of wreckage that eventually totaled 31 cars, troopers said.

The southern California fog is a thick swirling blanket that sneaks in at night, blots visibility into the morning, then ebbs later in the day, beginning its cycle again when the sun goes down.

Nearly 6 inches (15 cms) of rain in the Pacific northwest caused mudslides, forced the closure of highways and left no fewer than eight rivers above flood stage in Oregon.

# Guatemala, Argentina rap rights panel

CASTRIES, St. Lucia, Dec. 8 (R) — Guatemala and Argentina have accused an international commission of playing politics in its reports of human rights abuses in Latin America.

The Inter-American Human Rights Commission Sunday issued four special and one general reports to the Organization of American States (OAS) general assembly being held on this West Indian island. One of the special reports accused Guatemalan authorities of complicity in the execution of opposition politicians.

The general report referred to the seven-year-old state of siege in Argentina and the

reported detention without trial of 700 persons there. Argentina's ambassador to the OAS, Raul Quijano, said Monday the reports had "a dangerous degree of politicization."

"The OAS should try to condemn the government of a member state unless it can cite irrefutable facts," he said. "Otherwise it could be qualified as an act of irresponsibility."

The Guatemalan ambassador said he rejected the special report which "lacked impartiality and objectivity apart from intervening in areas and fields totally beyond its competence."

# Killer's execution stayed in U.S.

ATLANTA, Georgia, Dec. 8, (R) — A regional appeals court granted a 28-year-old convicted killer an indefinite stay of execution only hours before he was due to die in the electric chair Tuesday.

The appeals court issued a ruling from its headquarters here as a lower court federal judge in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, rejected a similar request for a stay of execution by Alvin Ford, convicted of the 1974 murder of a Florida policeman. Ford's lawyers argued that he was inadequately represented during his trial and that the sentence was too harsh.

The appeals court judges said they were granting an indefinite stay of execution so that Ford would have a chance to appeal. Ford, one of 164 prisoners on Florida's death row, was due to be executed at 7 a.m. (1200 GMT) in the state penitentiary.

The trial jury heard that Ford shot the policeman twice when he was surprised while trying to rob a Fort Lauderdale restaurant. As the officer lay bleeding, Ford took his car keys then killed him with a single shot to the head.

# 26 Sowetans die in crime

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 8 (AFP) — Johannesburg's giant black dormitory town of Soweto experienced its worst weekend of crime this year, with 26 persons stabbed to death between Saturday and Sunday, local police said Tuesday.

The town of 1.5 million inhabitants also had 40 assaults and cases of molestation of women. Most of the dead were victims of common thuggery, but one died as a result of a vendetta between two rival Zulu gangs, the police added.

## BRIEFS

MELBOURNE (R) — Australian trade unions have temporarily lifted their ban on handling the country's uranium exports, a union leader said Tuesday. The decision clears the way for regular shipments of the basic nuclear fuel uranium oxide, known as yellowcake, from ports in Queensland and Northern Territory. Dockers and seamen have displayed fierce opposition on both political and environmental grounds to the whole question of uranium exports.

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan Monday honored the two astronauts who took the *Columbia* shuttle into space last month. Astronauts Joe Engle and Richard Truly received the distinguished service medal, the highest award of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, at a White House ceremony.

ROME (AP) — Ferruccio Parri, a tough

commander of partisan fighters in World War II and Italy's first postwar premier, died Tuesday, hospital officials said. He was 91.

DAR ES SALAAM (AP) — The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has allocated \$15 million over the next five years to assist "liberation movements" in Southern Africa, it was announced here Tuesday. The beneficiaries of the UNDP assistance will be the Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which gets \$7.7 million, and the South African Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC), which will get the rest.

HANOI (AFP) — Pen Sovann, former secretary-general of the Kampuchea Revolutionary People's Party, is "very ill" and his replacement is in no way attributable to a political shift in the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh regime, the Kampuchea charge d'affaires in Hanoi said Tuesday.

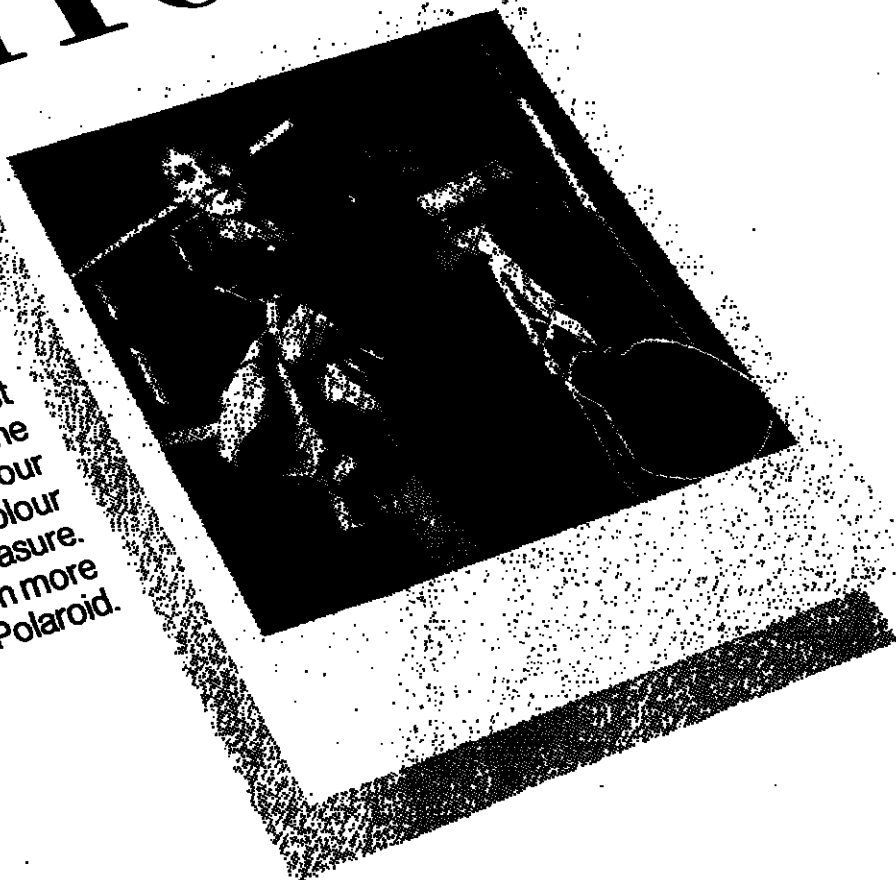


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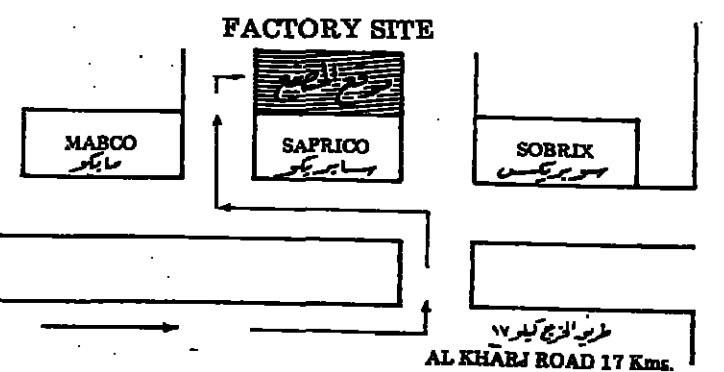
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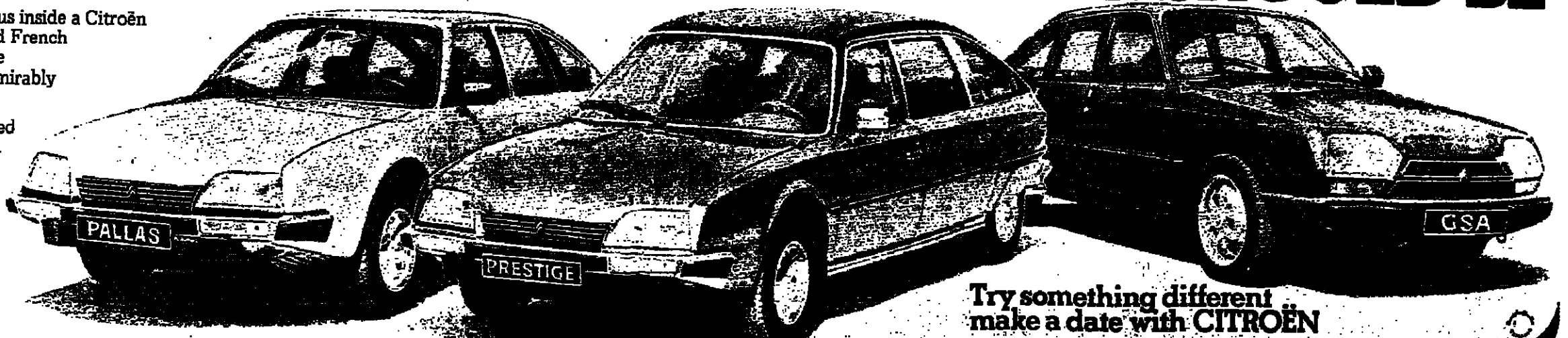
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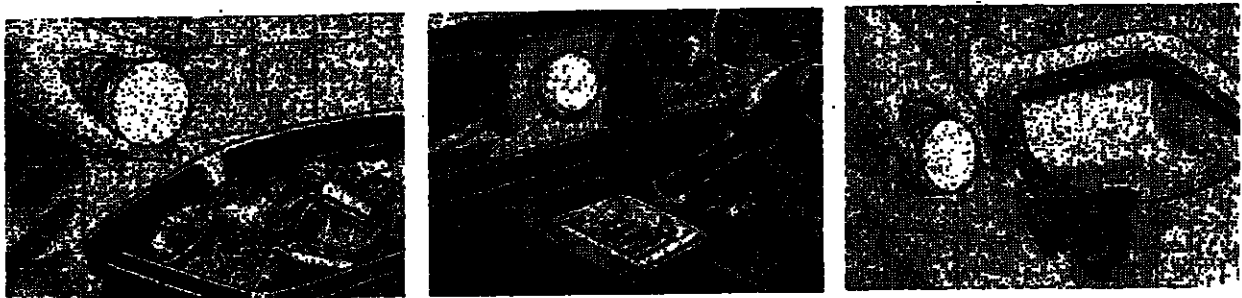
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# U.S. sees budget gap exceeding \$100b

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (R) — The White House is considering a number of economic forecasts, including one which shows unprecedented budget deficits of more than \$100 billion in each of the next three years, administration officials said Monday.

The gloomy forecast shows a spending gap of \$109.1 billion for the financial year which began Oct. 1. Only three months ago President Ronald Reagan predicted the 1982 deficit would be \$43 billion.

It also shows the budget deficit swelling to \$152.3 billion in financial year 1983 and \$162 billion in 1984, officials said.

But the forecast does not represent a consensus among the various economic camps in the administration. A Treasury Department official said it was just one of a number of projections being examined.

Officials said it assumed a rapid and dramatic drop in inflation resulting from a continued tight monetary policy and did not account for any further spending cuts by Congress.

Advocates of the supply economic theory favor a forecast showing more rapid economic growth in 1983 and 1984, which would result in lower deficit figures, officials said. But monetarists and more traditional conservative economists are pushing the forecast of large deficits because it shows swift progress in reducing inflation with a parallel cut in government income.

President Reagan ran for office on a campaign pledge that he would balance the federal budget in 1984. Recently, however, he has been forced to abandon that pledge and concede that the deficit for the current year would be far higher than originally anticipated.

The officials said the forecast was likely to be revised several times before the president formally unveils his new budget proposals in January.

## Rival sitting pretty Mobil bid for Marathon hit

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (R) — U.S. Steel, the country's biggest steelmaker, cleared a major hurdle Monday in its takeover bid for the Marathon Oil Company when the Federal Trade Commission decided not to challenge the proposed merger.

But Mobil, the nation's second largest oil company, kept up its rival bid by announcing a plan to sell part of Marathon to another small oil company, the Amerada Hess Corporation, if its takeover effort succeeded. The move was an attempt to eliminate anti-monopoly objections.

However, U.S. Steel appeared closer to success with the commission decision and with the announcement Sunday that its offer of \$125 a share for a controlling 51 percent of Marathon stock was substantially oversubscribed. The bid values Marathon at \$6.3 billion.

The commission can take action to block takeovers it feels are monopolistic but a spokesman said it did not intend to challenge the merger on anti-monopoly grounds. The commission is due to complete its anti-

monopoly review of Mobil's \$6.5-billion offer later this week.

Mobil announced in New York that Amerada Hess would maintain the headquarters of Marathon's marketing, refining and transportation operations in Findlay, Ohio, if its offer, which has been bitterly fought by Marathon, was successful.

Amerada Hess would assume responsibility for maintaining Marathon's sales of refined products to existing customers. Analysts said this would eliminate a specific objection raised by a Cleveland, Ohio, court which barred Mobil from acquiring Marathon because it might substantially lessen competition in petrol sales in six midwestern states.

The Mobil move also appeared aimed at allaying Marathon's fears that it would move Marathon's headquarters from Findlay, where it is the major employer in a town of some 40,000 people. Although U.S. Steel has attracted offers for more than the 30 million Marathon shares it was seeking, it is barred from buying them under a temporary restraining order won by Mobil.

## Call to bolster 3rd World shipping

GENEVA, Dec. 8 (R) — Shipping experts from Western, Communist and Third World countries meeting in Geneva have recommended giving developing countries a bigger share of the bulk cargo trade.

In a report published Monday, a 13-member panel convened by the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), also called on exporters and importers of four commodities — iron ore, bauxite, phosphate rock and alumina — to favorably consider using Third World shipping lines if their rates and conditions were acceptable.

The panel said exporters and importers responsible for arranging shipment of these commodities should provide shipowners from developing countries with information to help them decide if they should compete for the contract.

The chairman of the group, Mustafa Gokal of Pakistan, said he considered the recommendations "realistic and practicable." He said some critics might argue that they did not change the situation quickly or radically enough, but as a Third World shipowner himself he felt they would prove beneficial if adopted by UNCTAD's shipping committee which meets next June.

UNCTAD officials said members disagreed as to whether shipowners from developing countries were prevented at the moment from breaking into the bulk cargo market.

Some Western delegates said the market was a free one with no government restrictions. The experts included importers, exporters, shipowners and government officials from the United States, West Germany, Norway, Japan, the Soviet Union, China, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan and Tanzania.

## China claims rise in industrial output

PEKING, Dec. 8 (AP) — China's industrial production, rebounding from a slump, reached a record high in November, the *Worker's Daily* said Tuesday.

Chinese industry produced 47 billion yuan (\$31.3 billion) worth of goods last month, up 4.1 percent from October and 11.2 percent from November 1980, the trade union newspaper reported.

It said industrial production for the first 11 months was up 3.1 percent from January-November 1980 and, despite earlier worries, there now was confidence the 1981 plan could be exceeded. It said 92 percent of the

## Seoul ship orders touch \$1.9b mark

SEOUL, Dec. 8 (AP) — Foreign ship orders received by South Korea in the first 11 months of the year touched a record 1.466 million gross tons for 78 ships, valued at \$1.991 billion, the Korea Shipbuilders Association said Tuesday. The countries, who placed orders, included the Netherlands, Switzerland, Canada, India, Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates.

The January-November tally, a record for the period in Korean shipbuilding history, showed an increase of 25 percent from a year ago — 1.177 million tons for 60 ships with a value of \$1.323 billion.

In November alone, Korean shipyards received foreign orders for 12 ships with a combined tonnage of 163,000 tons valued at \$222 million.

## Texaco to hunt for oil in UAE

ABU DHABI, Dec. 8 (R) — A United States firm, Texaco, has won a concession to explore oil and gas in offshore waters of Umm Al-Quwain, a member state of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), officials said Tuesday.

Under an agreement signed Monday, Texaco will drill two wells in its 650-square-kilometer concession area in two years. Abu Dhabi is the top oil producer in the UAE followed by Dubai. Sharjah also produces oil, but expects to earn \$1 billion from oil exports through new discoveries in the next five years.

target had been completed.

In October and November, the paper said, "the size of decreases in the amount of profits turned in (to the state) by industrial enterprises and in labor productivity gradually became smaller." It added, "although the growth of industrial production has been slower than in the past, the figures are more dependable with less exaggeration."

The official Xinhua news agency reported Monday that members of the National People's Congress, now meeting in Peking, had complained that Chinese industries were one-third less efficient in keeping costs down and profits up than in China's best years.

The *Worker's Daily* said the reason for the improvement in October and November was that a reorganization policy was starting to show results. The new policy assigns definite responsibilities to various factories, workshops and individuals.

## BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The U.S. government will urge European Economic Community (EEC) steel firms to curb shipments to the United States, an informed source said. The request will be put by Secretary of State Alexander Haig at the end of this week in Brussels. Meanwhile the government has persuaded the leading American firms to postpone legal action against European rivals.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Independent federal U.S. investigators have concluded that air safety has been substantially maintained despite the firing of 11,500 air traffic controllers after their illegal strike last August, sources say. The findings by a special 16-member task force are to be presented to the National Transportation Safety Board for final approval.

LONDON (AFP) — A permanent non-static treatment for wool carpets has been developed by the International Wool Secretariat (IWS), in collaboration with the Wool Research Organization of New Zealand and the British textile chemicals manufacturer Stephenson Brothers. It was announced here Monday. The treatment, which is called disperstat, is based on a stable dispersion which can be applied to wool fiber or yarn at various stages during the carpet manufacturing process.

LONDON (AP) — The Swedish owners of Stanley Gibbons, which lays claim to being the world's biggest dealer in rare postage stamps, said Monday it plans to sell the famous London firm. The company said in a statement that it had decided the long term prospects of Stanley Gibbons would be improved if it became part of another group.

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Italy faces probe

# EEC agrees on steel import hike

BRUSSELS, Dec. 8 (R) — European Economic Community (EEC) foreign ministers have approved a slight rise in the community's 1982 steel imports over last year's levels.

EEC sources said Monday a group of 14 countries supplying most EEC steel imports would be asked to reduce these by 9.5 percent compared with 1980, against a 12.5 percent cut this year.

West Germany, a big steel exporter, pressed for a slightly greater easing of import restrictions to safeguard its trading relations with other countries. Earlier, diplomatic sources said West Germany, angered by continuing EEC payments to the EEC steel industry, had blocked payment of \$75 million in aid to the community's steelworkers.

Sunday's decision resulted from a compromise between West Germany, which was pushing for a cutback of only eight per cent, and France, Britain, Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg, which wanted 12.5 percent figure retained.

The EEC imports about 10 million tons of steel a year, or 10 percent of its total requirements. The ministers also approved 1982 trading arrangements with some developing

and socialist countries under the EEC's generalized system of preferences.

British Deputy Foreign Minister Humphrey Atkins said this gave better access to the EEC for goods from China and Romania, and extra quotas to certain products from developing countries. These arrangements do not cover the textiles trade on which the EEC is currently negotiating at Geneva.

Meanwhile, the European Commission is to probe Italian government's subsidies to firms which are said to infringe the EEC regulations, the commission announced Sunday. It will look at three government handouts totalling more than \$2 billion, two of which were not reported to the commission.

In recent weeks, the commission, the administrative arm of the EEC, has taken similar action against the Belgian and French governments.

The EEC subsidy code was designed to restore the European steel industry to profitability and to wipe out excess production capacity. The Italian government has two weeks to give details of two of the handouts to the commission, and a month to provide details of the third.

Toward the end of last month the commission demanded details on \$1 million subsidy granted to the Belgian Cockerill Sambre Steel enterprise, and decided to oppose plans to restructure the company. Last week, it was the French government's turn to explain steel subsidies of \$858 million to a local steel firm.

In another development, industrialists from 80 French textile firms arrived here Monday to express their grave disquiet at negotiations being held at Geneva to renew the multifiber arrangement.

### Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 6:00 P.M. Tuesday SAMA

	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.00	9.08
Bangladesh Taka	—	14.95
Belgian Franc (1,000)	—	289.00
Canadian Dollar	—	—
Deutsche Mark (100)	152.00	151.70
Dutch Guilder (100)	139.40	139.05
Egyptian Pound	3.62	4.06
Emirates Dirham (100)	93.00	93.15
French Franc (100)	60.20	60.10
Greek Drachma (1,000)	56.00	60.55
Indian Rupee (100)	—	37.35
Iranian Rial (100)	—	—
Israeli Dinar	—	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	28.60	28.40
Japanese Yen (1,000)	—	15.70
Jordanian Dinar	10.18	10.15
Kuwaiti Dinar	12.18	12.19
Lebanese Lira (100)	74.25	74.00
Moroccan Dirham (100)	60.50	64.80
Pakistan Rupee (100)	—	34.68
Philippines Peso (100)	—	42.50
Pound Sterling	6.62	6.58
Qatari Rial (100)	94.00	94.05
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	167.10
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	—	35.60
Swiss Franc (100)	187.25	187.00
Syrian Lira (100)	58.30	63.50
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	—
U.S. Dollar	3.429	3.420
Yemeni Rial (100)	75.00	74.90

	Selling Price	Buying Price
Gold kg.	46,150	45,950
10 Tola bar	5,400	5,360
Ounce	1,450	1,430

The above cash and transfer rates are supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange & Commerce, Gabel St., Tel. 6428932, Jeddah.

# Abu Dhabi oil output dips by 14%

ABU DHABI, Dec. 8 (R) — Abu Dhabi's crude oil production fell by 14 percent in the first half of this year to 216 million barrels from 251 million in the same period last year, the official Emirates news agency WAM said Tuesday.

WAM said the reduced output is the result of government policy of protecting the oilfields. Dubai, another oil-producing state of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), produced 65 million barrels in the first six months of this year.

Abu Dhabi exported 209 million barrels of oil and Dubai 62 million between January and June, WAM said. Forty percent of the two states' oil exports went to Japan. The UAE's current daily output is 1.4 million barrels.

### London commodities

	Tuesday	Monday
Gold (\$ per ounce)	419.50	417.00
Silver (pence per ounce)	460.00	449.00
3 months	475.50	464.00
Copper cash	874.50	875.50
3 months	895.25	895.00
Tin cash	8352.00	8355.00
3 months	8150.00	8110.00
Lead cash	342.25	338.00
3 months	352.50	348.50
Zinc cash	432.00	416.00
3 months	433.25	436.00
Aluminum cash	586.50	585.00
3 months	609.50	606.00
Nickel cash	2870.00	2895.00
3 months	2897.50	2895.00
Sugar January	169.00	165.00
March	171.50	167.80
Coffee January	1119.00	1085.00
March	1108.00	1073.00
Cocoa December	1163.00	1147.00
March	1142.00	1141.00

Note: Prices in pounds per metric ton. The above prices are provided by Saudi Research & Investment Ltd., P.O. Box 6474, Tel: 6653988, Jeddah.

### Financial Roundup

# Dollar rates forge ahead

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Dec. 8 — The dollar continued to strengthen on the European exchange Tuesday, against most other currencies except for the British pound. Sterling showed surprising resilience and continued to trade at 1.9405 levels Tuesday after reaching 1.9505 in London Monday.

Eurodollar deposit rates remained firm, but some easing took place in the short-dated funds.

In the local markets, rial deposit rate rose for the second day running, but once again it was the action of a few borrowing banks that caused rates to go up. Gold and silver were stable with gold at \$417 per ounce.

The Monday night New York markets saw the American currency maintain its European gains earlier in the day. The Federal Reserve Board eased rates slightly by the adding of liquidity, but "Fed funds" rates remained at 12 1/2 percent levels. On the money markets, Eurodollar deposit rates eased slightly in the shorter tenors, taking the one-month rate to 12 - 12 1/2 percent and the three-month rate to 12 1/2 - 12 3/4 percent.

Long-term Eurodollar rates were more stable, with the one-year trading at 13 1/4 - 13 3/4 percent. The reducing of the broker loan rate to 13 1/2 percent from 14 percent by Chemical Bank and others did not unduly affect the money markets.

The uncertainties over the Polish situation has brought renewed pressure on the German mark which traded at 2.2450 levels Tuesday — the lowest rate against the dollar for the past 3 weeks. The mark closed at 2.2380 in New York and dealers were predicting further falls against the dollar if the Polish situation worsens. The British pound

surprisingly enough, maintained its strong performance of the past few days, and traded at 1.9450 in New York and around 1.9430 Tuesday in London. The Bank of England was reported to be less active Tuesday in support of sterling.

In other currency news, the Swiss franc was quoted at 1.8090 levels Tuesday, while the French franc fell back further against the dollar to trade at 5.6700. The yen was quoted at 216.75 in New York and continues to come under pressure on the exchange markets who are expecting an interest rate cut move by the Japanese central bank.

In the local market, Tuesday's exchange dealings were reported to have been lively with spot rial/dollar rates closing at 3.4210-15 compared with 3.4200-10 on opening. While the rise in the spot value of the dollar is modest compared with the European moves, yet Jeddah dealers say this is the first time spot rial/dollar rates have touched the 3.4215 mark over the past three weeks. On the local money markets, short-term rial deposit rates continued to rise taking the one-month JIBOR bid-offer rate to 8 1/2 - 9 1/2 percent from opening levels of 7 1/2 - 8 1/2 percent. Week-fixed rates also rose to be quoted at 8 - 9 percent compared with 4 - 5 percent last Thursday.

In the longer tenors, the year-fixed rates remained stable at 11 1/4 - 12 1/4 percent.

LONDON (AP) — Closing gold prices (in U.S. dollars per troy ounce):

London	418.75
Paris	421.20
Frankfurt	419.01
Zurich	415.50
Hong Kong	420.84

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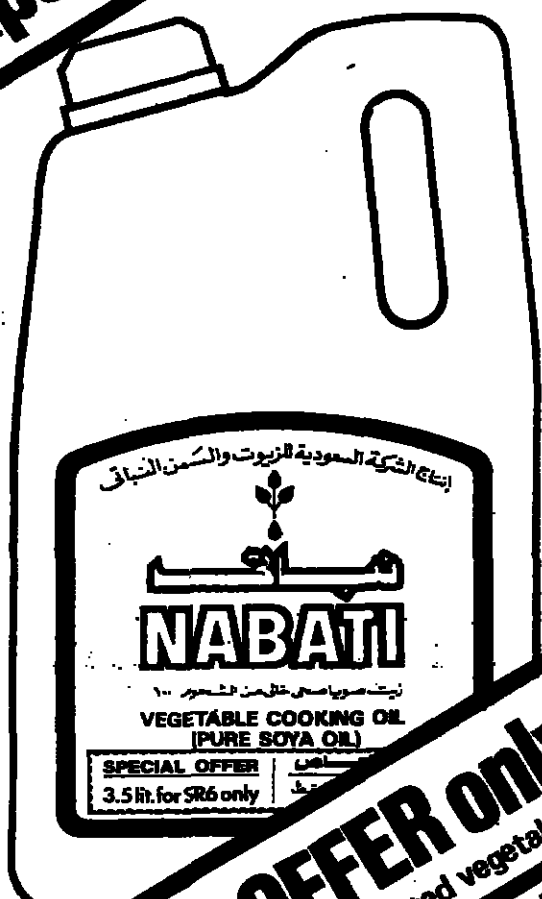
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TANJA HOLWERDA	U.S.I.S.M.	10-12-81	Dammam
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MALDIVE NOBLE	10-12-81	Maize	Bangkok

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MALDIVE NATION	29-11-81	06-12-81	Maize/Timber	Bangkok
SAUDI ENTERPRISE	29-11-81	01-12-81	General	Europe
PANCHABHA-05	03-12-81	04-12-81	Containers	Bombay

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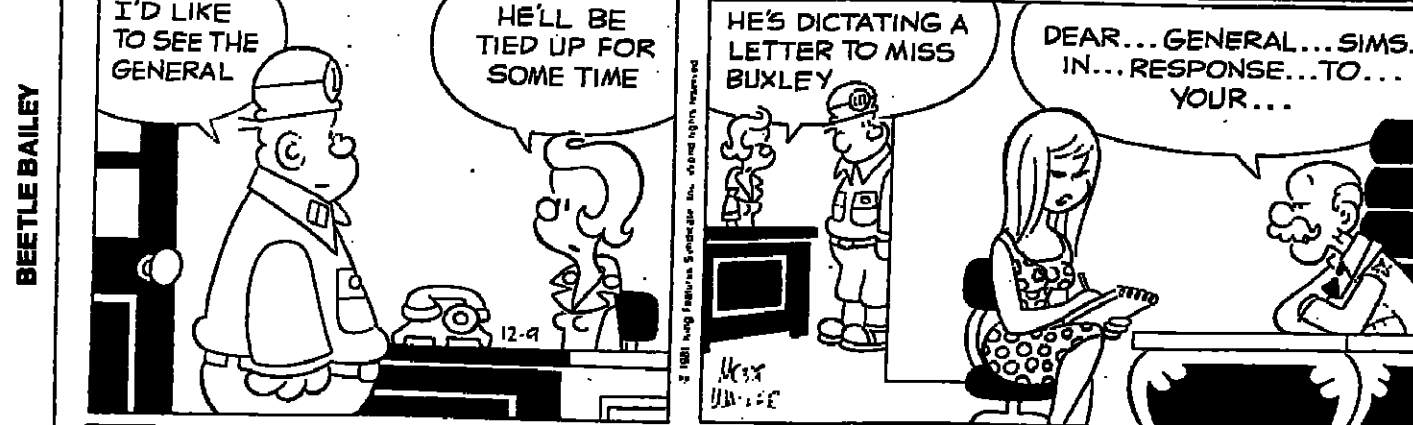
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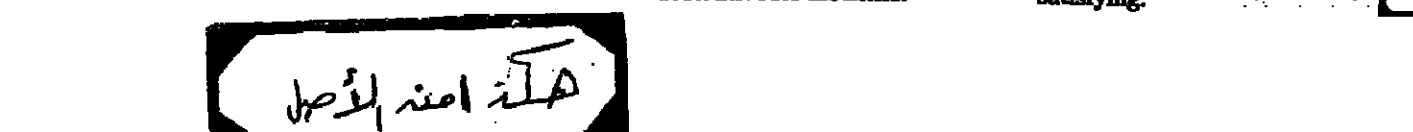
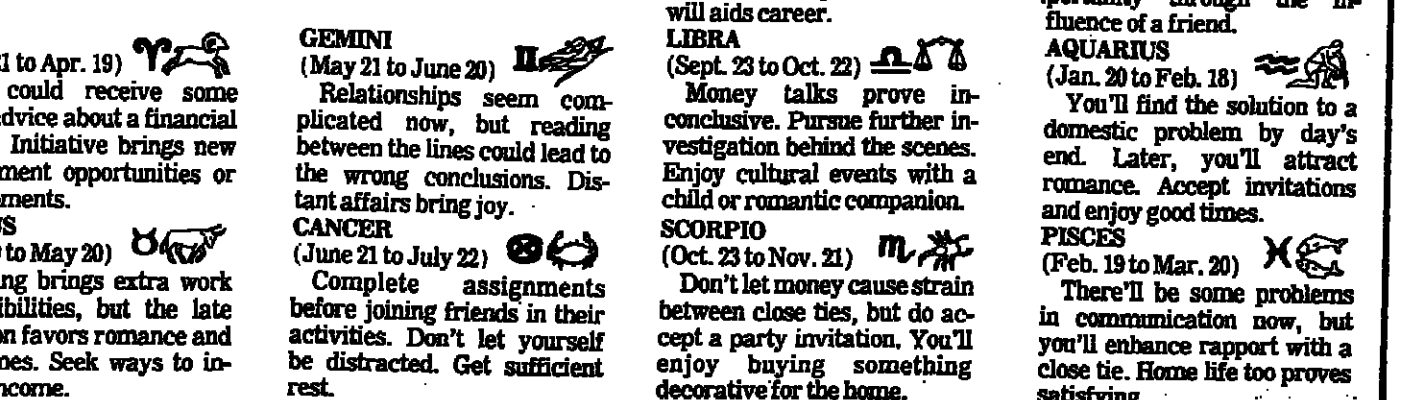
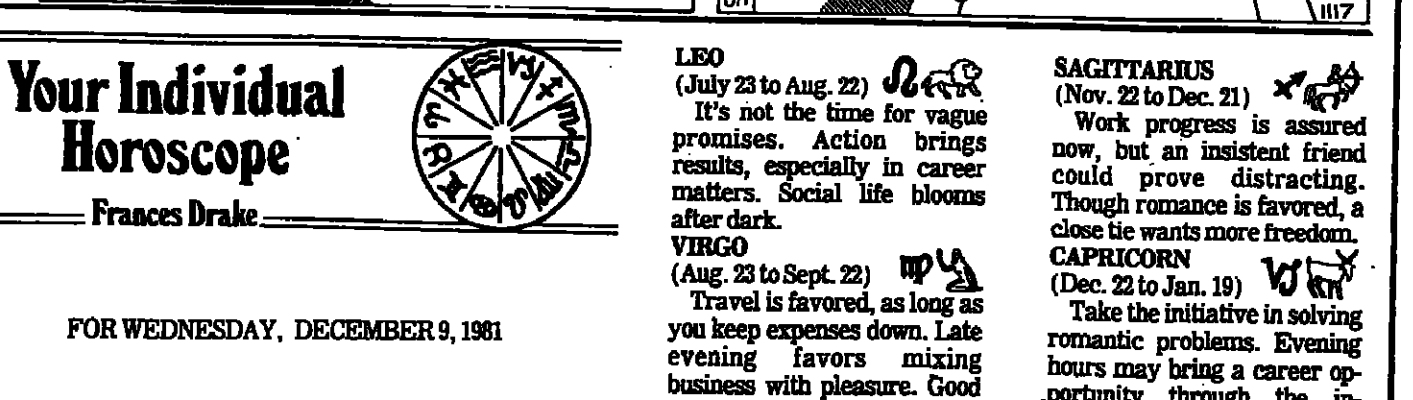
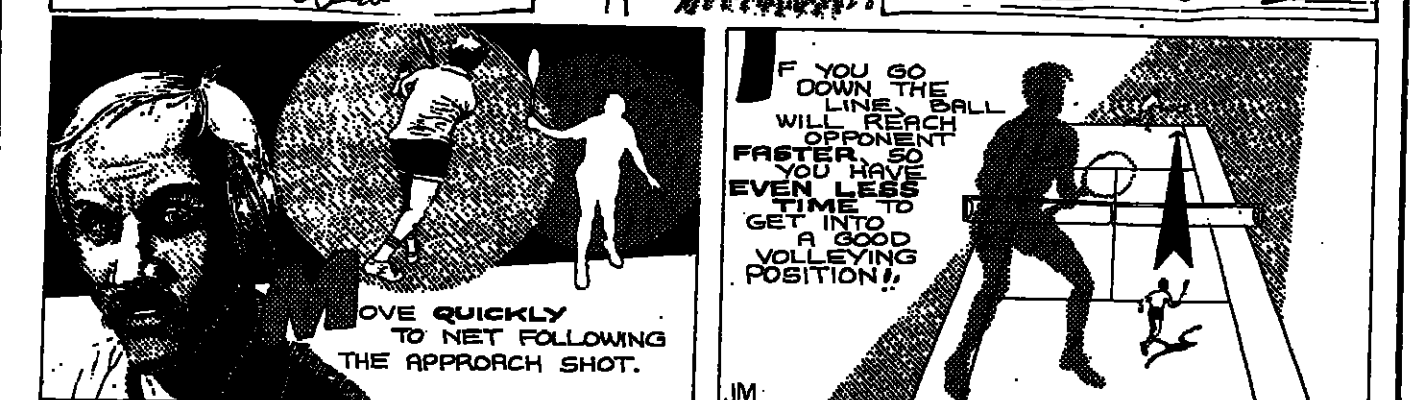
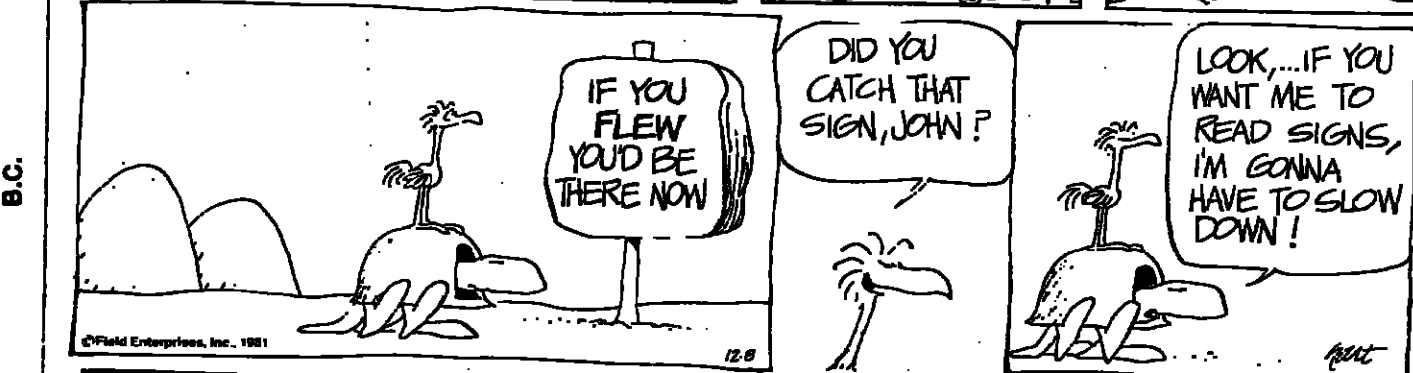
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arab news Calendar

Table listing TV and radio programs for Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Kuwait, Bahrain, Ras Al Khaimah, Radio Jeddah, Radio Riyadh, Francaise Langue, BBC, and VOA.

Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes 'Yesterday's Answer' and 'DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE'.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE - Here's how to work it: A X Y D L B A A X R is LONG FELLOW. One letter simply stands for another...

Contract Bridge B. Jay Becker. This is Sylvia.

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: ♠ 74, ♥ 653, ♦ 109753, ♣ 862. EAST: ♠ Q9862, ♥ -, ♦ Q8642, ♣ 1053.

Your Individual Horoscope Frances Drake. ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19), Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20), Gemini (May 21 to June 20), Cancer (June 21 to July 22), Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22), Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22), Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22), Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21), Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21), Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19), Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18), Pisces (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20).

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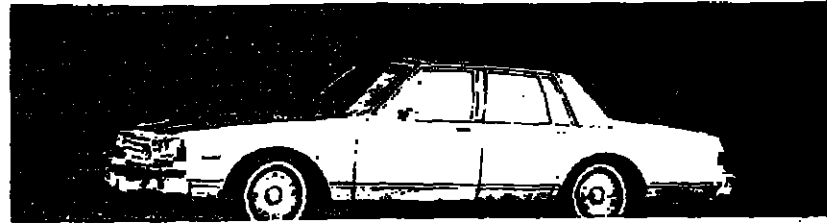
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### In concerted campaign

## Lech Walesa denounced as liar

WARSAW, Dec. 8 (Agencies) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa was denounced as a liar in the official press Tuesday as Poland's Communist rulers exceeded all previous criticism in attempts to discredit his free trade union movement.

Walesa's integrity was questioned openly for the first time in the army daily *Zolnierz Wolnosci* which also accused the Solidarity leaders of threatening the country with civil war. The attack against Walesa in *Zolnierz* was part of a concerted propaganda campaign by the authorities to demonstrate that the union was bent on destroying communism in Poland.

The campaign centered on tapes obtained from a closed-door meeting on Solidarity regional chiefs when Walesa said confrontation was inevitable and others called for a provisional government.

The tone of the campaign, in which for the first time the Communists have dropped their distinction between the moderates under Walesa and the union radicals, pointed to a new low in government-union relations. But well informed party sources said it did not mean the end of hopes for cooperation.

The party daily *Trybuna Ludu* suggested there was still time to repair the damage when it called on union leaders to repent and admit they were wrong. "Why not say it straight. We followed the voice of political ambitions and did not listen to the masses — we want to return to the line of agreement," *Trybuna Ludu* urged the union leaders. "It would be much more simple, better and honest."

But the party daily warned that the chances for agreement were fast receding. Solidarity has reached to the latest government blast with a mixture of injured pride and equanimity. The union says its leaders were quoted out of context and contests the official view that its public stands have destroyed the chances of further cooperation.

But Solidarity officials said the union was gearing for a "rough period." The union's national commission of parliament was preparing to meet Friday and Saturday inside the Lenin shipyard where the now 10-million-strong movement was born 15 months ago. The agenda will include plans for a general strike in the event of the Polish Sejm (parliament) adopting emergency laws.

The union's national commission will also discuss Solidarity's response to government economic reform plans and a union law now before the Sejm. The Sejm, faced with an enormous backlog, is scheduled to meet the following week, on Dec. 15 and 16.

Apart from considering party demands for a ban on strikes, deputies are also being urged to accelerate legislation to meet the Jan. 1 deadline for the promised economic reform. Solidarity spokesman Marek Druzone meanwhile described the publication of Walesa's alleged remarks as a new political element at a time when social discontent seemed to be cooling down.

The remarks have aroused two kinds of reaction among Poles. The moderate or uncommitted, ready to compromise with official communism, seem disappointed. Walesa is seen as going too far and doing exactly what the Polish leadership is accused of: Playing a double game.

But others, after 36 years of living a society where one has to guard one's tongue, saw time to call a spade and Walesa is congratulated on breaking through the self-censorship barrier. This seems to be the predominant mood among Solidarity's leaders, who have in the past accused Walesa of excessive caution to compromise with the government.

### Alleged coup involvement

## Rene seeks Kenya probe

VICTORIA, Seychelles, Dec. 8 (AP) — Seychelles President Albert Rene said Tuesday he will ask Kenya to investigate an allegation that it agreed to support a coup bid here by flying in two plane loads of troops and police to reinforce a vanguard of mercenaries.

The assertion was made Monday by Martin Dolinchek, a South African, captured here after the abortive coup on Nov. 15. Dolinchek told reporters he is a senior officer in South Africa's national intelligence service who came in advance of the mercenary group to assess the chances of the operation's success. He said wealthy Seychellois exiles bankrolled the plan.

"Like you, I also heard that Mr. Dolinchek has said the Kenya government was involved," Rene told a news conference. I have no evidence of this, except the words of Mr. Dolinchek."

Asked about the likelihood of Kenyan involvement, Rene replied, "We have not yet been able to form a definite opinion, although it does make more sense — the story as alleged now — because it was difficult to conceive if 44 mercenaries taking over this country."

He added: "Obviously we have to study all the facts, and then we will wish the Kenyan government to carry out at least

certain investigations with us with regard to those facts."

Asked about a possible motive for Western-leaning Kenya to back a bid to oust Rene's Socialist government, the president said: "It has been very clear for some time that some members of the Kenyan government do not like the Seychelles and its present government."

When asked to name them, Rene said: "I can tell you Mr. Njonjo for one. I don't know about the others, but he does not like the Seychelles at all."

Charles Njonjo is Kenya's minister of constitutional and home affairs and a key aide of President Daniel Arap Moi, current chairman of the Organization of African Unity.

Since Rene's supporters seized power from James R. Mancham in a June 1977 coup, the Seychelles leader has formed a close relationship with the Socialist government of Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere. Relations between Nyerere and Njonjo are known to be strained.

Kenyan President Arap, Moi Tuesday sent a telegram to President Rene saying that Kenya was not associated "in any way with the 'mercenary attack' and had already publicly condemned it, the Kenya News Agency reported.

## Chiefs warn Spain troops

MADRID, Dec. 8 (R) — Spain's military authorities made a fresh attempt to quell growing support for a declaration voicing sympathy for officers arrested after February's abortive coup.

The joint chiefs of staff issued their second statement in 24 hours after Defense Minister Alberto Oliart said there were signs of increasing support for the declaration in the armed forces.

The authorities' Monday statement was read to all officers. It said anyone who supported the document, signed by 100 junior and non-commissioned officers, would be dealt with severely. A previous statement condemned the manifesto as anti-constitutional and a breach of discipline.

The officers who signed the manifesto have been under house arrest for 14 days. A military judge has started investigating the affair. Their declaration criticized government and press treatment of the armed forces, attacked political interference in military affairs and supported the officers arrested after the coup attempt.

Political figures and the press warned Monday that Spain's democracy could be in danger. The general workers' union, Spain's second largest labor organization, said: "If the law is not applied rapidly and with rigor, the provocations that citizens have suffered in the past days could end in something much more serious and irreparable."

But government leaders said everything was under control. Deputy Prime Minister Rodolfo Martin Villa said the government was not nervous and military authorities had taken the appropriate disciplinary measures.

## Belgian coalition moves

BRUSSELS, Dec. 8 (R) — King Baudouin has asked former Prime Minister Wilfried Martens to form a new Belgian government following last month's inconclusive general elections. Martens, 45, a former president of the Flemish Social Christian Party (CUP), was given the go-ahead Monday night after Foreign Minister Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb gave up his efforts at forming a broad-based coalition.

## Greece sets conditions to stay in NATO wing

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Dec. 8 (AP) — Greece Tuesday signaled a willingness to stay in the military wing of the Western alliance but demanded control over its own forces in peacetime and a guarantee against Turkish aggression.

Andreas Papandreou, prime minister and defense minister of Greece listed the conditions at a meeting of 13 North Atlantic alliance defense ministers, sources said.

He rejected a proposal to put a new North Atlantic Treaty Organization regional headquarters in Greece and asked for a change in

the way the U.S. government balances military assistance between Turkey and Greece, sources said.

It was the first official statement by Papandreou to his NATO colleagues as a group, since he was elected in October on a platform that included a pledge to take Greece out of the military command structure it rejoined earlier this year after nearly 7 years of absence.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who met privately with Papandreou Monday, had billed Tuesday's defense planning session as a chance to see Papandreou's official proposals, after nearly two months of formulation.

The sources said Papandreou prefaced his conditions with a strong willingness to stay in the military wing, which includes all NATO countries except Iceland and France.

Greece left the military wing of the alliance in 1974 to protest what it believed was NATO inaction in stopping Turkish occupation of Cyprus.

As another condition, Greece wanted the right to deploy its own military forces to protest itself against possible Turkish aggression and wanted a NATO guarantee against attack from Turkey, the sources said.

The sources expressed optimism that the language of such a guarantee could be worked out in a way that would not be offensive to Turkey.

Papandreou also wanted NATO to become more active in solving the stalemate over Cyprus, which has been divided into Greek and Turkish zones, the sources said.

Finally, Papandreou sought a new formula under which the United States gives military assistance to Greece and Turkey. Under the current formula, Turkey automatically gets more aid than Greece. Papandreou wants a more flexible system based on need rather than fixed formulas.

Turkish Defense Minister Haluk Bgyluken responded to Papandreou with a strong denial that Turkey had any aggressive intentions toward Greece, conference sources said.

## U.S. to raise missile issue

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig is seeking a reaffirmation of NATO's commitment to deploy missiles in Europe if U.S.-Soviet arms reduction negotiations fail, U.S. officials say.

Haig, traveling under unusually strict security, was scheduled to leave Tuesday night for Brussels for a meeting of the NATO foreign ministers Thursday.

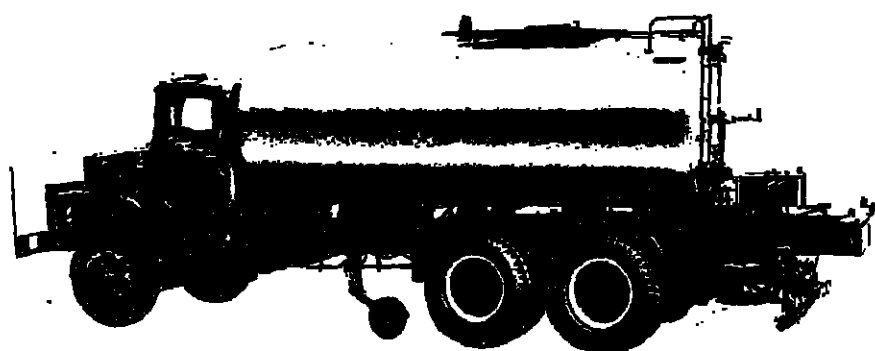
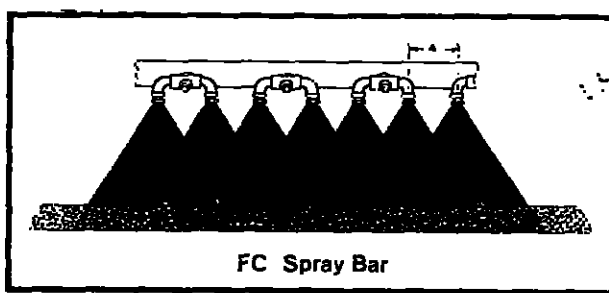
The progress of U.S.-Soviet negotiations restrict deployment of missiles in and around Europe will be a major topic in the agenda at Brussels. The negotiations began Nov. 30 in Geneva.

Haig and other U.S. officials say that if the negotiations drag on, as most experts expect, then NATO should go ahead with its plans to begin deployment in 1983 because a postponement would reduce the Soviets' incentive to reach agreement.

However, if NATO proceeds with deployment while negotiations are under way, officials believe it could set off a new outpouring of opposition in Europe. They were hopeful NATO won't waver in the face of such opposition. "I think we will be looking for general support of both tracks" said one official, referring both to deployment and negotiations with the Soviets.

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## Missile negotiators complete third round

GENEVA, Switzerland, Dec. 8 (AP) — Amid a near-total news blackout, U.S. and Soviet negotiators conferred Tuesday for more than two hours in their third full round of talks on reducing nuclear armaments in Europe.

"I can't comment," Chief Soviet delegate Yuli A. Kvitsinsky said after the session at the Geneva offices of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Entering Tuesday's session, Kvitsinsky sought to give the embargo on information a jocular twist. "No comment — on orders of orders."

Paul H. Nitze, head of the American delegation, announced the ban on disclosing details about the politically sensitive talks shortly after they began last week. Nitze said then that he and Kvitsinsky "concurred that the details of the negotiations must be kept inside the negotiating rooms... We will not discuss publicly the issues on the negotiating table." Nitze said secrecy would encourage progress.

Kvitsinsky, after Tuesday's deliberations, reaffirmed that the embargo on substantive information was by "mutual agreement." The news blackout was not breached in last week's two full negotiating sessions — which one American source described as "serious."

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